



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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"PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULAS."

A SUPPLEMENTARY VOLUME of this popular work, published only by the Proprietors of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, is now in the press. It will be perfectly unique, embracing, besides thousands of formulas sent for publication in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1904, many more received too late for inclusion therein, and "An Australian Pharmacopoeia," comprising the formulas of the hospitals in Australasia. The whole will be prefaced by a history of the Medicine-stamp Acts, with a new codification thereof, and many valuable particulars not published hitherto. Further information respecting this supplementary volume will be given in an early issue; but we may say now that the new volume will be in every respect a fitting companion to the one which has proved to be so helpful to all sections of the drug-trade at home and abroad. It will be supplied, like our other books, from this office and through the wholesale houses.

Summary.

THE transaction respecting the sale of a chemist's business in Ramsgate has terminated in the High Court with a verdict for Mr. Gadd, who sold the business (p. 778).

A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER of chemists have been returned as members of Borough and Town Councils throughout England and Scotland. Their names will be found on p. 758 and p. 761.

MR. J. L. DAVIES, the Hackney chemist, and two other persons have been committed for trial on the charge of feloniously receiving certain proprietary medicines, the property of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited) (p. 792).

IT is pretty well known that THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1904 is to contain several thousand formulae for known, admitted, and approved remedies. We give some particulars respecting the DIARY in a note on p. 774.

MR. NATHANIEL SMITH, pharmaceutical chemist, Cheltenham, died on October 30. He was a founder of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and had been in business on his own account for sixty-four years, working to the end (p. 781).

THE visit of the members of the City of London International Commercial Association to Paris is further referred to and illustrated in a column on p. 791. The visit was the result of an entertainment of French merchants who came with President Loubet to London.

THE Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association has drawn up a memorandum for presentation to the President of the Privy Council, objecting to the findings and recommendations of the Poisons Committee. We print the memorandum on p. 765.

THE GLASGOW PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION had a good discussion on the stamped-medicine question at the meeting last week, which was led off by Mr. A. Boyd. It is fully reported on p. 766, and it will be observed that the criticism of the Revenue authorities by chemists who have been caught was pretty free.

THE case of Hall v. Brices (Limited), an action to recover damages for personal injuries alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the defendants in supplying eucalyptus oil, has again come before Mr. Justice Phillimore and a common jury in the High Court this week. 100*l.* damages was awarded (p. 779).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL met on Wednesday, but the business transacted was chiefly of a routine character. Mr. W. F. Gulliver and Mr. R. Wright, of Buxton, were appointed examiners for England and Wales, and three pharmacists nominated by the Executive in Edinburgh were appointed for the Scotch Board (p. 763).

A NEW FORM of red phosphorus, made by boiling a 10-per-cent. solution of ordinary phosphorus in phosphorus tri bromide, is utilised for making matches, and a combination of naphthaline and phosphorus is similarly used. They were described by the originators at the meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry in London on Monday evening (p. 777).

WE have received a number of letters respecting the position of wholesalers as regards the supply of known, admitted, and approved remedies to those who are privileged by Exemption 3. The general opinion is that such transactions do not come within the general charge of duty, and that wholesalers should address the Board of Inland Revenue about the matter (p. 782).

THE PHARMACY BILL was the principal topic at the annual dinner of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, Mr. Newsholme speaking in regard to it, and giving Mr. Batty Langley, M.P., an opportunity of replying, which he used effectively, saying that none of those who backed the Bill last Session would do so again. Portraits of Mr. Newsholme and Mr. Langley are included in our report (p. 789).

THE Clerk of the Society of Apothecaries sends us a correspondence between him and Mr. Stooke, President of the North Kent Chemists' Association, respecting qualification of apothecaries' assistants; and other correspondents maintain that the qualification entitles the holders to the exemption of Section 16 of the Pharmacy Act (p. 782). "Xrayser," however, makes short work of this contention in a note on p. 773.

COCAINE is 2s. per oz. lower, and strychnine is 2d. per oz. higher. Podophyllum-resin has advanced owing to scarcity of root, and American oil of peppermint is flat and lower. A large speculative business has been done in quinine at fluctuating prices, and pot. iodid. is being freely offered below convention rates. The above are the important features of the drug-markets; and in heavy chemicals an arrangement has been concluded in the United States between British, American, and continental makers of bleaching-powder, by which it is hoped to put the market position on a better footing. It has also been decided that the present British prices of alkali, caustic soda, and soda crystals shall be continued throughout next year (p. 786).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The liquorice-works of Mr. Wilson, Pontefract, were on November 3 completely destroyed by fire. Amongst the goods destroyed were 100 cases of liquorice, packed ready to be taken away.

George H. Dickson (39), cashier to Messrs. Ross (Limited), opticians, New Bond Street, W., is under remand at Marlborough Street Police Court on a charge of stealing various sums, amounting to 100/-, from his employers.

Henry Clinton, the manager of a drug-stores in Enery Street, Ancoats, and described as a chemist, has been fined 5s. and costs by the Manchester Justices for having 3½ lbs. of loose gunpowder on his unregistered premises.

From the windows of our editorial rooms the words "Nestlé's Food" in electric letters are seen morning and evening. They are a new sign on the St. Paul's end of the building at the junction of Cannon Street and Queen Victoria Street.

The food and drug inspectors in the Walworth district of South London have been buying samples of cod-liver oil. It appears to be thought that this article gives a chance for the public analyst to show his talents for detection of adulteration.

The Medicated Wine Company, of Huddersfield, at the Grantham County Court, on November 3, failed to recover 29/- 16s. from Mr. James S. Stanton, grocer, Grantham, the value of medicated wine supplied on sale or return, but the Judge allowed plaintiffs 18s. 5d., the value of wine which had been sold.

Henry Robert Stephens was at the Clerkenwell Police Court, on October 31, fined 3/-, and 23s. costs, for assaulting Mr. Herbert Hewitt and his son at the Brewers' Exhibition, under circumstances described in last week's issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. Mr. Hewitt, the prosecutor, is well known as the treasurer of the Public Dispensers' Association.

Messrs. Brooke, Spiller & Simpson (Limited), manufacturing-chemists, of Windsor Road, Hackney Wick, were on Thursday of last week summoned to the North London Police Court for permitting "dense black smoke" to come from their chimneys to the annoyance of the surrounding inhabitants, but the summons was dismissed with two guineas costs.

A Macclesfield labourer was last week committed for trial at the Cheshire Sessions, on a charge of attempting to murder the girl he had been keeping company with. He put ammonia in her tea, but she noticed it was black and smelt of the alkali, so did not drink it. Afterwards Mr. Carter Bell, the county analyst, found 44 gr. of strong solution of ammonia in the tea.

The Earl of Onslow, President of the Board of Agriculture, opened the County Technical Laboratories at Chelmsford last week. The buildings have cost about 12,000/-, and comprise chemical, physical, and biological laboratories and class-rooms. It is notable that two erstwhile pharmaceutical chemists are at the head of the scientific movement in Essex —namely, Dr. J. C. Thresh and Mr. T. S. Dymond.

At Leeds, on October 30, John Boyne (21), a labourer, was committed for trial on a charge of breaking into the shop of Messrs. Boots, cash chemists, Briggate and King Edward Street, on the previous Sunday morning. Two men were said to have been at the job, but only the prisoner was caught, and he had fourteen purses, a chatelaine bag, a gold bangle, a gold chain, ten gold rings, and some card-cases in his possession.

At Teignmouth last week a chemist's errand-boy jumped on the back axle of a passing cab. His medicine-box caught in the spokes of the wheel, and the boy was dragged through the spokes, his head being on one side of the wheel and his

legs on the other. He was in this way carried a distance of 400 yards, revolving with each turn of the wheel, and when he was released it was discovered that all the damage he had suffered was a torn coat.

Municipal Elections.

The following gentlemen connected with the drug-trade have been elected:

Mr. Page Woodcock re-elected to Lincoln Town Council.

Mr. W. B. Allison, chemist and druggist, Stoke-on-Trent, for the West Ward.

Mr. J. E. Kirkpatrick, analytical chemist, Taunton—re-elected unopposed.

Mr. E. H. Barritt, pharmaceutical chemist, Colchester, for the North Ward of that town.

Mr. Owen A. Clark, chemist and druggist, for the Abbeygate Ward of Bury St. Edmunds.

Mr. R. Jefferson Dodd, chemist, 70 Tottenham Court Road, W., to the St. Pancras Borough Council.

Mr. Isaac T. Lloyd, chemist, 267 King's Road, Chelsea, for Stanley Ward, Chelsea—re-elected.

Mr. Henry Potter (Potter & Clarke), for the Spitalfields Ward of East Stepney—re-elected unopposed.

Mr. A. F. Barnard, pharmaceutical chemist, 88 Columbia Road, E., to the Bethnal Green Borough Council.

Mr. John Laurie, ex-President of the Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association, re-elected to the Blackpool Town Council.

Mr. W. Hartle, chemist and druggist, Stoke-on-Trent; for the Couliden Ward of his borough, by a majority of eighty-nine over his opponent.

Mr. Charles Brown, chemist and druggist, to the Torrington Town Council (unopposed). Mr. Brown was formerly in business at Beulah Road, Walthamstow, E.

Mr. A. E. Grey (Botwright & Grey, Spencer Street, Clerkenwell, E.C.), re-elected for the St. Mark's division of Finsbury, where there has been a stiff fight.

The St. Marylebone Borough Council has now the following chemists on it: Messrs. E. H. Storey (Bird & Storey), 42 Castle Street East, W.; D. L. Evans, 49 Abbey Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.; G. J. Knight, 452 Edgware Road, W.; and R. Thomas, 13 Upper Baker Street, W.

Chechemists did not play a very conspicuous part in the municipal elections in Yorkshire, writes our Bradford correspondent. Three members of the craft have been elected—viz., at Bradford Mr. George Bedford, at Huddersfield Mr. J. H. Arton, and Mr. Smith Ward at Batley. The last of these names only do we find on the register of chemists and druggists. Mr. Ward has been a member of the Batley Corporation for several years, and was asked a few days ago by a deputation to accept the mayoralty, but declined.

Amongst those who have not been returned are:

Mr. W. Moorhouse, chemist and druggist, Wakefield d.

Mr. E. J. Bishop, chemist and druggist, Folkestone (retired).

Mr. A. E. Black, who stood for the Crouch End division of Hornsey.

After a stiff fight, Mr. J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, was unsuccessful in the Burngreave Ward of Sheffield, being 433 votes short of victory. Mr. Furness had the assistance of Sir Howard Vincent, M.P., at one of his meetings. He has already been nominated for a casual vacancy.

Poor-law Notes.

The Guardians of the St. George's Union have appointed Mr. W. H. France, chemist and druggist, Rotherham, as dispenser at the Union infirmary.

The Wandsworth and Clapham Guardians have declined to recommend that the porters at the Union dispensaries should be provided with books in which to record the times of arrival and departure of the doctors employed there.

It was stated at the last meeting of the Medway (Chatham) B.G. that the report of the medical officer, Dr. A. Freear, on

the suggestion of Mr. Hart, as to the difference in the cost of bovril and beef-tea for the inmates, worked out at 2*g.d.* for bovril as compared with 5*d.* for shin of beef, without taking into consideration the saving of fuel and labour.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

On Wednesday evening, October 28, the final meeting of the Local Committee met at the University College, Bristol, Mr. J. W. White (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. G. T. Turner, E. F. Young, B. Allen, J. T. Good, H. E. Matthews (Hon. Treasurer), and H. E. Boorne (Hon. Secretary). The Hon. Treasurer presented the financial statement, which showed that, after meeting liabilities, a balance remained in hand of 15*l.* Messrs. Allen and Turner audited the accounts and found them correct. Mr. B. Allen proposed, Mr. E. F. Young seconded, and it was decided to hand the balance of 15*l.* over to the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society. It was also agreed that a circular giving particulars of the financial report should be printed, and a copy sent to all who had subscribed to the local fund.

The First Year of the Medical Curriculum.

Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., presented the prizes at Bristol University College last week, and in the course of his speech threw out some suggestions regarding the study of chemistry by medical students. He said he spoke as a chemist, although he is also a doctor of medicine; and, referring to what goes on in the human organism, said the compounds formed are so complex, the changes so intricate, and the laws of change so obscure, that only a small part of the field has been explored. It is not possible, he remarked, to give a medical student such a training in chemistry that he can make use of discoveries relating to the chemical mechanism of the human body and its functional disorders, so as to be able to form an intelligent opinion as to which suggested remedies should and which should not be attempted. Even an accomplished organic chemist is far from being in a position to follow the most recent researches in physiological chemistry. The changes which occur in the organism relate not merely to the fact that products are transformed, but to the conditions under which they are transformed; and the number of men able to handle both divisions of the science is small, and they are found only amongst the most distinguished chemical and physiological investigators in the world. What, then, is the use of chemistry to the medical student? Should it form part of his curriculum? To remove the study of science from the curriculum of the student destined to become a general practitioner would be a mistake, said Sir William. It is not possible to push back these studies into the schoolroom. He would keep the curriculum of the average medical student in science so far as it related to chemistry, physics, and biology; but he would not expect him to acquire these subjects up to examination-pitch—that is, to be able at the end of the session to have at their finger-ends the minutiae required by the usual examination-paper. He proposed that the first year of a medical student's curriculum should be devoted to hearing lectures on chemistry, physics, and biology; that he should be required to do the usual class-work, including frequent short examinations and exercises, to make sure that he understands what he is learning; but that he should not be required to show that he has crammed up the subject so as to satisfy an external examiner at the end of his year of study. Although a year is far too short a time to make a chemist, a physicist, or a biologist, it is not too short a time to create a mental impression on a medical student which would be of great advantage to him in his future career. But if, as had heretofore been the case, the qualification required was that the student should be successful in an examination held in such preliminary studies, then they must face the fact that the burden is too great, that most students are casual in their attention throughout the year, and trusted to make up lost ground by a rapid bout of cramming shortly before the examination, and "lightly gained, lightly lost." He knew that the medical student's burden is already heavier than he can bear, he knew also that a strong feeling exists that more time should be devoted to purely professional subjects, and he had attempted to suggest a remedy.

Chemist Mayor and the Commander-in-Chief.

The Mayor of Chatham (Alderman C. T. Lamb, wholesale and retail chemist) last week received Lord Roberts on his visiting Chatham for the consecration of Chatham Parish Church. The Mayor asked Lord Roberts to unveil a beautiful picture of the "Return of the Light Brigade" at Balaclava, presented to the town by the member for the Borough (Alderman Sir Horatio Davies), and subsequently Lord Roberts and a brilliant assembly were entertained to luncheon in the town hall. Responding to the toast of "The Mayor and Town of Chatham" (proposed by the Bishop of Southwark), Alderman Lamb said he was not a member of the Church of England but a Nonconformist, yet as Mayor he was pleased to help on others who were trying to do good in the town. He remembered his grandfather (who was a Churchman) taking him to the old parish church of Chatham, which was very different from the present edifice. They rejoiced at the fine building which had been added to the town. He believed in the union of the civic and religious forces, and ministers might do much to help the sanitary authorities by pointing out the defects they discovered in their visits amongst the parish.

Electrical Practitioners' Angry Words and Blows.

"You don't want to swill yourself with chemists' compounds" said an electrical "practitioner" in Bristol recently. The city has been receiving the attention of specialists who in their treatment of ailments call electricity to their aid. There are at present two rivals who are prominently before the public—one, Professor Richard, medical electrician; the other, Herr Cohen, president of the Electro-zone Institute. On Friday evening Professor Richard engaged the Victoria Rooms for a public demonstration, and a number of his patients testified to benefits that they had received at his hands. Herr Cohen was also there—not as a patient, it need hardly be said—and he had around him a goodly contingent of supporters. There was electricity in the air. The rival professors speedily came to close quarters. The existence of an old and bitter feud was made clear; and the crowded audience, many of them in sheer goodness of heart, promptly took sides. They had gathered to enjoy the free entertainment of a parade of healed sufferers, and they thought it much better fun to see the specialists at loggerheads. The hall was opened when Professor Richard was interrupted in his address by a call for his diploma. The request came from an occupant of the gallery. Professor Richard answered it by showing a diploma to some members of the audience, and then there was an interchange of personalities which led Professor Richard to produce a whip and ask an interrupter whether he remembered "the incident of the past" and if he "wanted any more." There was a turbulent scene as Professor Richard gave a gratuitous advertisement to his rival; and Herr Cohen was quickly on his feet, his supporters cheering him wildly. Challenge and controversy alternated, to the huge delight of the assemblage, and uproar prevailed for long spells. An invitation to Herr Cohen to go on the platform was immediately accepted; the professors both claimed a hearing, and some personal remarks led to blows being struck, a lady fainting during the excitement that prevailed. [Here our reporter draws the curtain.]

Birmingham Notes.

After a stiff fight Mr. Freeman failed to oust his opponent who scored 350 in excess of himself.

Messrs. Hedges had the task of distributing 15,000 sample bottles of "Veno's" cough-cure in the city on Tuesday—5,000 each at the three branches.

The Midland Medical Society held their annual *conversazione* at the Grand Hotel last week, when exhibits of recent remedies, dressings, and medical appliances were displayed by Messrs. Southall, Messrs. P. Harris & Co., Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Messrs. Oppenheimer & Son, and Messrs. Dowres.

Alleged Thefts of Perfumery.

At the North London Police Court on Friday, October 30, Robert Dibb (27), clerk, Belton Road, Tottenham, again appeared to answer the charge of theft from the Crown Perfumery Company. Evidence was given by W. C. Mawley, private in the Army Medical Corps and formerly in the

packing department of the Crown Perfumery Company, who deposed to carrying parcels of goods for the prisoner Detective-Sergeant Hook handed in a list of the property in the possession of the police which was concerned with this case. Mr. Arthur Niblett (manager) recalled, said he had been through the books of the firm, and could find no entries of goods sold to Greaves or Beavis; neither was there any entry of goods sold to Dibb on May 12. He was cross-examined at considerable length. This was all the evidence, and Mr. Fordham (the magistrate) said it was a case in which a jury should decide as to whether or not there had been stealing. Mr. Avery: My client is prepared to go into the box to give evidence on oath; but if he is to go for trial I won't take up the time of the Court now. On the whole, I think it would be a matter best settled by a jury. Mr. Fordham: So do I. I shall, therefore, commit him for trial, and accept 60*l.* bail for his appearance.

Adopting Children.

At the Hull Police Court on November 3, John William Sales, manager of a drug-store at 37 Spencer Street, Hull (who is not on the register of chemists and druggists), and his wife, Emma, were each fined 5*l.*, and costs under two other summonses, for offences under the Infant Life Protection Act. The accused advertised for a child to adopt. On November 12 they got one, receiving 25*l.* with it, and subsequently four others, getting 90*l.* with them. The last one was born on August 7, and died in the accused's house on October 6. This child's grandfather deposed that Sales told him he wanted to bring up a child in business, as he had no child of his own. Sales said he was in business as a chemist. The summonses were (1) for maintaining three children apart from their parents without notifying the local authority; (2) not notifying the Coroner of the death of the child referred to; and (3) not notifying the local authority that they had received that child.

Miss Hickman's Death.

Some excitement has been created relative to the death of Miss Hickman, M.D., consequent on the discovery near where her body was found of a hypodermic syringe, four tubes of "tabloid" morphine sulphate, and a bottle with the remains of a label on it and a small quantity of distilled water in it. There was sufficient left on the label to show that it had been supplied by Mr. J. Parrott, dispensing and family chemist, of Friars' Stile Road, Richmond.

Fatalities from Poison.

Anæsthetic and industrial poisoning have claimed most victims during the past week. Deaths from accidentally or intentionally swallowing poison have numbered eight, of these seven were intentional. Carbolic acid caused two deaths. At Battersea the wife of a clerk drank it in mistake for whisky. At Rhyl a man died on the promenade after taking the acid, and at Blackpool a servant girl of seventeen ended her life in the same way. We mentioned last week a case at New Malden. When this came to be investigated by Dr. Goodwin at Kingston it transpired that carbolic acid had been obtained from the offices of the local District Council. It was not marked "Poison," as the officers do not generally put labels on the bottles. The jury were of opinion that the acid had been served out in a very loose manner, and in future the bottles should be labelled "Poison." The Coroner quite agreed. Our Plymouth correspondent reports that a woman committed suicide there on October 30 by taking chlorodyne. She had two bottles of chlorodyne, one labelled "Poison" from a London firm, and the other marked "Chlorodyne poison," purchased from a Plymouth chemist, which did not contain any morphine. A corporation labourer at Accrington, who had been in the Cottage Hospital for rheumatism, got there a bottle of chloroform and aconite liniment. He drank some of it intentionally and died. A Harrogate coachman came to London last week and drank rather heavily all day, so that he got delirium tremens. While in this state he drank laudanum, which accelerated death from heart failure. A dock labourer at Bow last week went to Mr. W. H. Lyne, chemist and druggist, Roman Road, for some solution of morphine to poison a dog. He got it, drank it himself, and died. A middle-aged woman at Aigburth committed suicide

with salt of lemon on October 30. The wife of a retired builder at South Tottenham took spirit of salt in error, we judge, and died on October 29. A domestic servant with Dr. Fairley, Cowpen Village, took a bottle of prussic acid from her employer's surgery last week, swallowed the contents, and died.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Strychnine-poisoning.

On October 30, a child named John Kernan, three and a half years old, was killed by taking strychnine, which its father had got to poison rats, and had placed on a bed.

Delivering Goods.

Dr. Donnellan, dispensary medical officer, Castlerea, has complained to the Guardians that drugs he ordered from Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, in June were not delivered till August. It appears that they lay at the railway-station all that time. Messrs. Boileau & Boyd have since written explaining that medical officers are in the habit of arranging with carriers to take goods from stations at the contractors' cost, and they did not see why there should be any difficulty in this case.

Verminous, but not Ailing.

The Local Government Board have objected to the supply of carbolic soap, Smith's disinfecting-powder, gentian-root, powdered ginger, Keating's insect-powder, &c., to the Old-castle Union, on the ground that they are extra medical requisites, and are not on the prescribed list. Dr. Kelly, who requisitioned the supplies, states that the articles requisitioned are necessary for cleansing and disinfecting purposes and for cases demanding special treatment. The letter was considered satisfactory.

Personal.

Mr. James S. Ashe, L.P.S.I., Dublin, has passed the third professional examination of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Mr. Wm. McCarthy, L.P.S.I., Clontarf, has been nominated as a candidate for the vacant councillorship of the Clontarf West Ward of the Dublin Corporation.

Mr. Charles O. Hagan, L.P.S.I., Newry, has been awarded 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* damages under the Malicious Injuries Act for the breaking of a stained-glass window in his shop during the recent political riots.

A Charge of Forgery.

At the Dublin Northern Police Court, on November 2, Andrew Kirkland, an employé of Messrs. Hugh Moore & Alexander (Limited), Dublin, was charged with having forged a bill from Thos. Phillips, 13 Essex Quay, by altering the figures therein from 1 lb. of gold bronze, 2*s.*, to 14 lbs. of gold bronze, 2*l.* 2*s.*, and signing the name of Thos. Phillips thereto. After evidence by Mr. Wm. Francis Moore, Mr. Henry Phillips (goldbeater), and Detective Lonergan, the case was adjourned, the prisoner being remanded.

An Acetylene Patent.

At Dublin, on November 4, before the Master of the Rolls, the hearing was commenced of an action in which Mr. Thomas Henry Walker, chemist, Dalkey, seeks damages and an injunction for the alleged infringement by the Sunlight Gas Company (Limited) of an improved process and apparatus patented by him for the simultaneous production of acetylene and carbonic-acid gases. The defendants say that the plaintiff's patent was anticipated by Goodwin's in 1896.

Bisulphate instead of Bitartrate.

The Local Government Board have written to Mr. P. N. White, chemist, Sligo, stating that of compound powder of jalap supplied to the Tralee and Naas Unions one was found on analysis to contain 21 per cent. and the other 22.5 per cent

of potassium bisulphate. The letter added that the Board had taken a very serious view of the matter, and had intimated to both the Unions concerned that they would not object if the medicine-contracts were terminated. When the matter came up at the Tralee Board it was decided to inform the contractor that if he supplied inferior medicine in future that drugs of the proper standard would be purchased at his expense. The Naas Guardians made an order terminating Mr. White's contract.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Another Pennyworth Shop.

Cheap & Good (Limited) are to open a branch at 251 Argyle Street, Glasgow, on Friday, December 11.

Fire.

Last week, owing to the explosion of a bottle of inflammable material, a fire took place on the premises of Messrs. Cockburn & Co., chemists, Cathcart Street, Greenock, which resulted in damage to the stock and property estimated at 800/-.

Chemist-councillors.

The following have been successful:

Mr. Andrew Forrester, for Dysart.

Provost Mathieson, for Innerleithen.

Mr. Walter Davidson, for Blairgowrie.

Mr. John Raffan, for the Port Street Ward of Stirling.

Mr. Thomas Bissett, for Burntisland (at the top of the poll). Baillie Wm. Doig (unopposed), for his old seat in Dundee

Personal.

Last week Mr. John A. Hogg, who has been for some years manager in the Dysart branch of Mr. William McLaren, chemist, was entertained to dinner in the Masonic Hall by a number of friends—Dr. Wallace presiding—and was presented with a handsome davenport writing-desk in name of the doctors and friends, and by Mr. J. B. McLaren, chemist, on behalf of himself and employés, with a handsome dressing-case. Mr. Hogg is starting business on his own account in Stirling.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

SWALLOWING BACILLI.—An attempt of a curious nature to commit suicide is reported from one of the French hospitals. The would-be victim was a nurse, who swallowed two tubes of Eberth's pure culture of the bacilli of typhoid fever. She complained of a headache on the third day, but there was no fever, and on the eighth day a number of rose-coloured spots were noticeable. The case turned out in the end to be a severe attack of typhoid fever, but the nurse eventually recovered. The large amount of bacilli swallowed is the explanation for the shortness of the term of incubation of the fever.

BEARDLESS DOCTORS.—Dr. Salmon, of the Pasteur Institute at Paris, makes light of the new English crusade. He declares every eminent surgeon in Paris wears a beard, and if they put on masks to operate it is much more to protect the wounds against sputa and perspiration than any impurities on the beard. He condemns the barber's razor as a propagator of rashes and even syphilis, and declares actors, menservants, &c., usually have unhealthy skins for this reason. The question will doubtless be soon raised, he says, that if beards are dangerous, what about the hairy arms of many of our surgical heroes? Are these also to be condemned to the daily contact of the razor?

THE WORKGIRLS' WALKING-MATCH (marche des midinettes) held in Paris recently was far too popular and original a function to be neglected by the enterprising advertiser. The second prize (a perfumery-stand in chased

silver) was offered by M. Lenthalier, while another well-known perfumery house (Pinaud's) offered a box of perfume and 500 illustrated postcards. The "Maggi" bouillon was distributed free to all competitors at the start and the arrival, as well as at a halfway-house. At the Tuilleries the name of the firm, high aloft on a linen band above the stall where the "midinettes" were refreshing, struck one as a capital advertisement. One of the numerous photos taken of the winner, Mlle. Cheminelle, represents her taking a glass of a largely advertised quinine-wine.

East Indian News.

THE GRAPHITE-MINES in the State of Travancore reported an output of 4,757 tons for 1902.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—The first stopping-place *en route* from Calcutta to Bombay by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway after leaving Rajpur is ornamented with the name "Drug."

R. SCOTT THOMPSON & CO. (LIMITED).—Mr. V. E. Neps, lately accountant to Smith, Stanistreet & Co., has succeeded to the positions vacated by Messrs. R. G. Carberry and G. G. Cumming as secretary and general manager in this concern.

THE SCHEME for the establishment of a Government Central Drug Dépot is shortly to be abandoned. Colonel St. Clair Carruthers, who has been some time in Calcutta, returns to Madras, the Calcutta Government Medical Stores moving to more commodious premises at Dum-Dum.

THE CASE AGAINST VASANJI NATHU & CO.—At the Mazagon Police Court, Bombay, last month, Mr. P. H. Dastur, Second Presidency Magistrate, acquitted VasANJI Amulak, of VasANJI Nathu & Co., druggists, of the charge of receiving stolen property—to wit, Russian cream and carbolic acid—valued at Rs. 21, the property of Messrs. Treacher & Co. The property was ordered to be returned to Messrs. Treacher & Co.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.—In view of the increasing usefulness of the Imperial Bacteriological Laboratory at Muktesar, and of the enhanced demands upon it, the Government of India have decided to extend the building, and to enlarge and improve the machinery. Up to the present three different sera have been worked out by Dr. Lingard. The anti-rinderpest serum is now in enormous demand.

CALCUTTA CHANGES.—On the death of Mr. Donald McGregor, Messrs. A. Gibb and A. Meldrum were admitted into partnership in the firm of Bathgate & Co., the composition of which is now as follows: Mr. James McGregor, Dr. R. Whitelaw, Mr. A. Gibb, Mr. A. Meldrum.—Mr. R. H. Cann, formerly with Messrs. Smith, Stanistreet & Co., has acquired the business carried on by Mr. T. Partridge at 21 Chowringhee Road, and forming a branch of his Darjeeling firm.

BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CONTRACT.—Messrs. Treacher & Co. have secured the contract for the supply of medicines and medical appliances to the Arthur Road Hospital and other municipal hospitals and departments for the year which began on October 1, 1903, and closes on September 30, 1904, their tender being the lowest, and 10 per cent. below the scheduled rates. At the meeting of the standing committee of the Corporation which sanctioned acceptance of tender, a letter was read from Messrs. Kemp & Co., in which the firm offered to alter their rates from 8 to 12 per cent. below the scheduled rates.

GANJA IN BENGAL.—In the course of the annual report of the Bengal Commissioner of Excise for 1902-3 it is stated that as there was a very large outturn of ganja in the preceding year cultivation was restricted to a limited area, which was calculated to produce the estimated quantity of ganja required. The Supreme Government has been in favour of restricting cultivation, and orders were received during the year that only a limited area, not exceeding 976 acres, should be placed under ganja cultivation each season. The average outturn shows a decrease, which is attributed to the ravages of insects before the crop was cut. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 32,62,120, as against Rs. 30,87,654 in the year 1901-2, the net increase being Rs. 1,74,466.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa.

MR. E. P. FIELD, for some years with Mr. S. K. Elgie, M.P.S., Durban, has purchased the Medical Hall, Maritzburg. Mr. Field carries with him the best wishes for his future success from a large circle of friends.

THE CAPE GOVERNMENT ANALYST (Mr. C. F. Juritz, M.A.), in his report for the quarter which ended on June 30, shows that only three drug-samples were analysed (Gregory's powder), and they were all genuine.

MR. DAVID S. B. ANDERSON, chemist and druggist, formerly with Mr. W. J. Moore, chemist, Stirling, Scotland, and latterly for three years with Mr. H. J. Brereton, of Durban, has opened a high-class pharmacy on the Berea, Durban.

NATAL PHARMACY BOARD.—The quarterly meeting of the Board took place in Maritzburg on October 8. Present: Mr. G. A. Champion (President), Messrs. Marchant, Charlton, Elgie, and Dr. Hyslop (representing the Medical Council). An examination of candidates for the chemists' certificate, as prescribed by the Medical and Pharmacy Act, was held on October 8, when six candidates were examined, only one of whom passed. The successful candidate was Mr. H. Arnold, of Maritzburg.

FIRE.—Once more Durban has fully justified its title of "The City of Blazes." During the first week of October two destructive fires took place. On October 3 Messrs. Sparks & Young, butchers and cold storers, were entirely burnt out, the damage being estimated at 15,000/.; and on October 8 the confectionery-works of Messrs. W. Turner & Co., Prince Edward Street, were partly destroyed. The damage is estimated at 8,000/. Our Cape correspondent also writes: At two o'clock on the morning of October 8 a police-constable on duty near the tram-terminus at Wynberg noticed flames issuing from a block of buildings near by. The whole block was gutted, and among those who suffered was Mr. J. M. Goodenough, chemist.

TRANSVAAL NOTES.—Things still remain so quiet that there is little news to record.—Mr. J. Whyte, chemist, of Roodepoort, has opened a branch at Florida, a village on the reef ten miles from Johannesburg.—Mr. Skinner, one of the delegates sent by the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines to China, California, Straits Settlements, and other countries where Chinese are employed in mine-work, to inquire into and gather information about the question of Chinese labour, has returned to the Rand, and on October 6 issued his report, which was not as favourable as was anticipated.—The shortage of native labour was discussed at a conference of scientific societies in Johannesburg on October 3. The Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society was represented. A resolution was put to the effect that immediate steps should be taken to introduce unskilled Chinese labourers under proper supervision. This was, after some opposition, passed in modified form, "or other coloured" coming between "Chinese" and "labourers."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.—A general meeting of this Society was held in the Y.M.C.A. rooms, Cape Town, on October 8, Mr. J. S. North in the chair. The attendance was small, but among those present were Mr. George Darroll, Dr. Arderne Wilson, Messrs. A. Marr, J. Sowden, S. Johnson (of Messrs. Lennon, Limited), and the Secretary. Mr. Darroll drew the Society's attention to the fact that absolutely nothing had been done towards securing the return of the candidates for the forthcoming Pharmacy Board election that they had undertaken to support at the last meeting. The members had not even been advised as to the decision arrived at. The Secretary was instructed to take immediate action, and a circular-letter is to be sent out. Mr. W. Froembling, Ph.D., gave a most interesting lecture, entitled "Miscellaneous Remarks on Botany." [Pressure on our space this week compels us to hold this over.] Mr. S. Johnson moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Froembling, which was seconded by Dr. Wilson. This concluded the proceedings.

Colonial and Foreign News.

FROM STEEL TO SERUM.—German papers reported recently that Krupp's villa at Capri has been bought by Professor von Behring, who purposes using it as an institution for serum-therapy.

WITHOUT PREJUDICE.—The Dutch Government is desirous of adding a section on homeopathic medicaments to the Dutch Pharmacopœia, and a sum of 500 gulden is placed in the budget for 1904 for carrying these wishes into effect.

A PASTEUR INSTITUTE is to be established by the German Government in Berlin. It will not be called "Pasteur Institute," but it will reproduce in working essentials the celebrated Parisian establishment, and Dr. Behring will be at the head of it.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR APPLIED CHEMISTRY.—Several Italian professors, including Messrs. A. Menczzi (of Milan), R. Nasini (of Padua), A. Piutti (of Naples), and E. Paterno (of Rome) met recently at the Chemical Institute of the University of Rome in order to arrange the preliminaries of the sixth International Congress of Applied Chemistry, which is to be held at Rome in 1906. Professor E. Paterno, of Rome, was elected President of the organising committee.

CUSTOMS SWINDLES IN TURKEY.—The Turkish Customs officers, according to the *Chemische Industrie*, take abundant advantage of the ignorance of merchants and importers to confiscate goods. The Austrian Consul-General at Beyrouth is one of the last to complain of the way the officers behave, and he mentions the following as a few items forbidden to enter the country: Nitroglycerin preparations, and practically all explosives; mica; cocaine, and preparations into which it enters; all essences used for making spirits; carbide of calcium; acetylene; pink pills; certain mineral waters, &c.

A VENERABLE PLANT.—Amongst the plants which have been transferred from the large winter house of the old Berlin Botanical Gardens to the new gardens at Dahlem is a very old example of *Chamærops humilis*, L., which is of quite historical interest, as it is said to have been in Berlin in the middle of the seventeenth century. The plant was used about the middle of the eighteenth century by Mr. J. G. Gleditsch, who was in 1746 appointed director of the Berlin Botanical Gardens, to finally settle the dispute which was then going on regarding the sex of plants. The plant, which is a female, had blossomed repeatedly without bearing any fruit, so Gleditsch brought pollen from a male chamærops, growing in Dresden, and sprinkled on the stigma of his specimen. Although the pollen was nine days on the way, Gleditsch was successful in fructifying the ovules, and he reared eleven young plants from the seeds obtained in the following year. Gleditsch renewed the experiments several times successfully, once with pollen obtained from Carlsruhe.

STEALING SECRETS.—*Chemische Industrie* reports a case of betraying German trade secrets to the foreigner which has lately been tried before the Second Territorial Court of Berlin. Workmen named Valentin Scutarek, Bronislau Koslowsky, and Michalla were concerned in it. The last-named left the service of the plaintiffs (Gebr. Heyl & Co. (Limited), of Charlottenburg) to enter the service of Messrs. Paul Gignoux & Co., chemical-manufacturers, Lyons, in 1901. From there he wrote to his friend Koslowsky asking for recipes for the production of chrome and aniline colours, and offering 50f. for each "item." He sent his letter to the factory, and as Koslowsky had left, Scutarek was asked to give him the letter. Koslowsky replied to Michalla that he could not serve him, as he was not any longer in the factory. To this he got a reply asking him to name someone else who would do it, and, to make a long story short, it was arranged. Scutarek on April 26 took advantage of his run of the premises to enter the cupboard of M. Meyer with false keys, and from the recipe-book copied the method for producing green chrome colour. Subsequently he got the recipe-book for red aniline colour in the same way, and others followed. The damage sustained was laid at 100,000m., and the contingent damage could not be estimated. Scutarek got two and a half years' imprisonment, and Koslowsky two years'.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE public business of the Council on Wednesday was shorter than usual. A resolution of sympathy with the family of the late Mr. Nathaniel Smith, of Cheltenham, was passed, the PRESIDENT adding some interesting details. A telegram of congratulation was recently despatched to Dr. Swan on his birthday, the telegram and reply being read to the Council. The President in a eulogistic speech referred to his Paris visit, which he seems to have much appreciated. The sum of 122*l.* was disbursed in casual grants from the Benevolent Fund, and a donation of 100*l.* announced from Mr. Standen Paine, of Manchester. The two new examiners appointed for England and Wales are Mr. W. F. Gulliver and Mr. Robert Wright (Buxton), and for Scotland the list published last week was approved of. The question of Divisional Secretaries does not excite much enthusiasm amongst the members, but few replies were received to a recent request for nominations. There is, however, great potential value in the scheme, according to the Secretary's report. Dr. Symes suggests that pharmacy should be efficiently taught in the Society's School—a suggestion which the School Committee are going to consider. Sir Thomas Hanbury completed his promised endowment of the Hanbury medal by transferring a 500*l.* Mexican bond to the Society, and was thanked for so doing. Attention was called to a memorandum of the British Medical Association of the Poison Committee's report, which was characterised by Mr. Carteighe and Mr. Robinson as very valuable.

The monthly Council-meeting was held on November 4 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. There were present the President (Mr. S. R. Atkins), Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. Carteighe, Cooper, Corder, Cross, Currie, Gifford, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, Newsholme, Robinson, Southall, Storrar, Symes, Woottton, and Young.

The PRESIDENT mentioned that he had received a letter from Mr. Taylor regretting that owing to ill-health he would not be able to be at the meeting.

THE SECRETARY.

The PRESIDENT also announced that the Secretary is better, and hopes to return to London at once. He had been persuaded to remain at Bournemouth for a few days longer to avoid the pressure of the committee and Council meetings.

Mr. Chater, assisted by Mr. H. Froude, took Mr. Bremridge's place at the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and passed.

CONDOLENCES.

Miss Proctor wrote on behalf of her mother and the rest of the family thanking the Council for their sympathetic references to her late father—Mr. B. S. Proctor.

The PRESIDENT then moved a resolution of regret at the death of Mr. Nathaniel Smith, of Cheltenham, "a founder of the Society, and a former member of the Society, whose loyalty to the ideals, which found embodiment in the foundation of the Society, and his great interest in the work of the Society, have never wavered through the intervening sixty-two years of its history." The resolution was addressed to Mrs. Smith and her family, the President adding a few remarks of his own. He said it was a faithful and touching resolution to the worth and value of a very old friend of his. Only last September, when staying at Malvern, Mr. Smith had asked him (the President) to stay a day with him at his charming residence at the foot of the Cotswold Hills. The day he then spent received an accentuation of pathos. It was

his pleasure to hear the dear old man recite the history of his early struggles, and of the strenuous activity by which he climbed to a distinguished position in pharmacy. He (the President) was extremely struck with the fact that Mr. Smith had been associated as an assistant in the West-end with Mr. Gray, the son of Mr. Gray, of Gray's "Supplement." It was a pity, the President added, that there is no means of retaining the reminiscences of eminent men of pharmacy; the details such men could give often die with them. After referring to the charm of Mr. Smith's home, the President referred to a remark he made at the station. "I hope, my dear friend, God will spare your life to see a century." "Well," replied Mr. Smith, "I don't know but that I may not see a century." But "man proposes and God disposes," and the Society has lost one of its most loyal and true men.

Mr. ROBINSON said he had known Mr. Smith for the last thirty years. He saw him last summer, and although Mr. Smith was ninety years old he almost ran by the side of the conveyance to deliver parting messages. Mr. Smith showed him his old prescription-books, and told a great deal about his early history. Mr. Smith was looked upon as a marvel in Cheltenham; people would hold up their hands and say, "What! are you still here?" He (Mr. Robinson) concurred entirely with the resolution.

Mr. SOUTHALL added that he had met Mr. Smith now and then, and endorsed the words of the resolution.

The resolution was then put, and passed in silence.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The PRESIDENT said that, learning that it was recently the birthday of their distinguished friend Dr. Swan, he had ventured, in the name of the Society, to send a congratulatory telegram. The telegram conveyed the Society's respectful congratulations, and expressed the hope that Dr. Swan will be long spared to the empire of science he had done so much to enrich and extend. A reply was subsequently received from Dr. Swan. The President added that he had recently had the advantage of a long conversation with Dr. Swan, and knew that he felt a growing interest in the Society.

THE PARIS TRIP.

The PRESIDENT next reported on his recent visit to Paris, disclaiming at the outset any personal merit; honour was paid to him as President of the Pharmaceutical Society. He received the most kindly, generous, and hospitable reception in Paris, and one which he will never forget. He had had a few eventful incidents in his life—milestones along the path of life—but he had never participated in anything so brilliant and distinguished as the Centenary of the Paris Society of Pharmacy. At the business meeting, at which addresses were presented, an elaborate discourse on the history of the Society was delivered by M. Bourquelot. Those utterances were memorable and impressive from their brilliant oratory. He had never heard anything so beautiful in the always-impressive French language. The banquet was an extraordinary brilliant affair, even in a country where the art of cuisine has been brought to such a fine art. The room, with its exquisite paintings and furniture, was a work of art, but the speech of the President, in exquisitely well-balanced sentences, was something he (the speaker) would never forget. There was only one toast, "The Science of the World," upon which the representatives of the different scientific societies present were asked to speak. It was an exceptional honour that he, as President of the Pharmaceutical Society, was the first to be called upon to respond. He had M. Petit on his left and Professor Schaefer (of Strasburg) on his right, and both could converse in English. Mr. Idris, representing the British Pharmaceutical Conference, rendered him much service from his knowledge of Paris, and he also was much indebted to Mr. Goodall, of the *Journal* staff. Mr. Backhouse (of Roberts & Co.) had also called at Bloomsbury Square shortly before, and had told Mr. Bremridge that he would render any service he could. The President next referred to a dinner organised by the English assistants, and to a list of five members which had since been received as a result of the meeting, adding that the visit would not only result in a strengthening of the membership, but promote the *entente cordiale* between the two Pharmaceutical Societies.

Mr. HILLS said the Society had been fortunate in having such a representative as Mr. Atkins, who could hold his own in his own language quite as well as the Frenchmen alluded to. He felt that much good had been effected by the visit, and the *entente cordiale* strengthened not only between the two Societies, but between the two nations.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Three members were elected, and two restored to their former status in the Society.

Six names were restored to the register.

FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee showed a balance on the General Fund account of 329*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*, and recommended the following accounts, amounting to 2,158*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, for payment:

	£ s. d.
Journal	612 19 5
Repairs	497 9 9
House	173 13 10
Law charges	33 7 0
Stationery, &c.	28 0 11
Examination charges	359 19 4
Current expenses	200 0 0
Monthly salaries	166 5 0
Library	14 9 11

The balance on the Benevolent Fund was 343*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, and on the donation account 19*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

The report was passed.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was considered in committee, after which the

VICE-PRESIDENT said that the large number of cases considered did not call for any particular comment. Some were deferred for further consideration, but grants—four of 13*l.*, three of 20*l.*, and two of 5*l.*—were recommended to be made.

The report was adopted.

The PRESIDENT said the fund had received a donation of 100*l.* from Mr. Standen Paine, of Manchester.

THE LIBRARY REPORT.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was next received, and passed without comment. It included a reference to the Museum Report, which Mr. E. M. Holmes has prepared. This is to be printed at a cost of 45*p.* The Librarian was permitted to transfer some duplicate volumes to the Edinburgh house of the Society, and asked for directions in regard to relieving the library of less important or obsolete books. The School staff reported on the question of a Board of Study in Pharmacy at the London University, and urged that representation should be made by the Council to the senators in favour of the establishment of such a board. Professor Greenish submitted the final portion of the work which he and Mr. Upsher Smith have been doing on the solubilities of the Pharmacopoeia. The paper is to be printed, and a copy sent to the Pharmacopoeia Committee of the General Medical Council.

EXAMINATIONS.

The Board of Examiners were informed, in reference to a paragraph in their report [the purport of which was not stated.—ED.], that pending fresh legislation it is not desirable that action be taken.

Mr. W. F. Gulliver and Mr. R. Wright were appointed examiners for England and Wales in place of Mr. E. S. Peck and Mr. H. Wilson.

For Scotland, Dr. G. Coull, Mr. A. Davidson, and Mr. D. B. Dott were appointed in place of Mr. J. I. Fraser, Mr. J. Nesbit, and Mr. J. F. Tocher.

The examiners were thanked for their services during the past year.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.

Mr. CHATER read the Secretary's report of the Divisional Secretaries' scheme. Cards were sent to all the members of the Society—5,024—asking for nominations for the office of divisional secretary. The replies received numbered 732. A list of retirements, through ill-health or lack of time, was

then read. Many of the vacancies have yet to be filled up. The report concluded with the remark that "the Pharmaceutical Society has in its Divisional Secretaries an effective parliamentary organisation, the potential value of which has not yet been tested."

The PRESIDENT said the thanks of the Council were due to the Divisional Secretaries for their services in the past year. Great service had been rendered in keeping the register up to date, and he hoped the Divisional Secretaries would not forget the importance of keeping up interest in the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. NEWSHOLME seconded the resolution, and said that, whilst thanking the Divisional Secretaries, the Society were anticipating a great deal more service in the future. There would probably soon be a dissolution of Parliament, and much could be done in interviewing candidates. It was a little disappointing that out of 5,000 postcards only 700 replies were received, but perhaps the majority of the members are satisfied with their present representatives. He hoped it did not show apathy, and thought a little more life would be a good thing for the Society.

The Divisional Secretaries for Scotland were also re-elected, three vacancies, due to resignations, being filled up.

TEACHING PHARMACY.

Dr. SYMES obtained permission to refer to the portion of the Library, &c., Committee's report dealing with research. He said that recently, when going over the School, he saw the necessity for better facilities for teaching pharmacy. There was no effective apparatus for making galenicals, and although the School staff did their best under the adverse conditions he hoped the committee would consider whether the time had not arrived for the provision of more facilities for teaching pharmacy.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said it was largely a matter of ways and means—there was no room for another laboratory.

The matter is to be considered by the committee.

HANBURY MEDAL ENDOWMENT.

A letter was received from Sir Thomas Hanbury, in which it was stated that in pursuance of his promise at the inaugural meeting in October to endow the Hanbury medal, Messrs. Cull & Daniell, Threadneedle Street, had been instructed to pay over to the Society a 5-per-cent 500*l.* bond of the Government of Mexico, yielding 25*p.* a year. It was added that, should the Mexican Government at any time during Sir Thomas's lifetime make default, he would make good the loss to the Society.

Mr. CARTEIGHE moved a resolution of thanks to Sir Thomas Hanbury for his generosity. The thanks were an echo of the approval which was expressed at the inaugural meeting of the School. As Secretary of the original Hanbury Fund and one of the adjudicators ever since, he (the speaker) expressed admiration at the brotherly sentiment which Sir Thomas had expressed.

Mr. R. A. ROBINSON seconded the resolution, which was then carried unanimously.

LETTERS.

The thirteen lady students in the School of Pharmacy sent a letter of thanks to the Council for providing a retiring-room.

The Bradford Chemists' Association thanked the Society and its officers for their efforts to assist chemists in regard to the new reading of the Medicine-stamp Acts.

PHARMACY BILL.

The Privy Council acknowledged the receipt of the new clause to the Pharmacy Bill.

Acknowledgments were also received from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Society of Apothecaries, and the British Medical Association.

The last-named Association called attention to their recent memorandum on the Poison Committee's report.

Mr. WOOTTON asked if the letters expressed approval of the new clause.

Mr. CHATER replied that no definite opinions were given.

Mr. CARTEIGHE referred to the memorandum of the British Medical Association as extremely valuable. It was, he said, gratifying to see that such an Association, after

carefully considering the Poison Committee's report, felt that the findings of the majority were wrong.

MR. ROBINSON added that the memorandum showed clearly that it is by no means to the public interest to adopt the findings of the majority of the Poison Committee.

UNUSUAL.

MR. CARTEIGHE, referring to a report of the *Journal* Committee which was to be considered in committee, said he wished to mention in public his appreciation of the work done by the *Journal* staff. On the occasion of the inaugural meeting of the School of Pharmacy the proceedings were only concluded late on the Thursday afternoon, yet the *Journal*, with a report of the meeting, was on the breakfast-table on Friday.

This concluded the public business.

Pharmacy Act Amendment.

British Medical Association on the Subject.

AT the last meeting of the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association the report of the Poisons Committee was considered, as we were able to state in our issue of October 10, and a report of the committee appeared in the last issue of the *British Medical Journal*. The first part is a summary of the circumstances regarding the appointment of the Poisons Committee, to which was added by the Organising Secretary a concise summary of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, this being followed by an account of what the Poisons Committee did, and the nature of their report.

The Organising Secretary also presented a memorandum of considerations to be submitted to the Lord President on the subject. The memorandum was considered by the committee, amended, and reported as follows to the Council of the Association, with the recommendation that it should be communicated to the Lord President of the Privy Council, as expressing the opinion of the Association on the subject:

Memorandum of Considerations to be submitted to the Lord President of His Majesty's Privy Council, in relation to certain proposed changes in Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

The Council of the British Medical Association has taken into careful consideration the changes in Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, proposed by a Departmental Committee appointed by the late Lord President, to consider and report on the alterations required in the said schedule, and would most respectfully submit for the consideration of your Lordship the objections which it appears to the said Council should in the public interest be urged against the proposal of the majority of the committee to relax in respect of certain poisons the restrictions at present imposed on the retail sale thereof by the Pharmacy Act.

The poisons, the sale of which it is proposed to facilitate, are preparations of arsenic, tobacco and its alkaloids, and carbolic acid, when sold for agricultural or horticultural, and, as regards carbolic acid, also for sanitary purposes. In respect of these poisons, when sold for the purposes described, it is proposed no longer to require that the seller shall be a person who has given evidence of technical training and knowledge in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

The Council of the British Medical Association feels called upon on behalf of the medical profession to express the grave misgiving with which those who are made aware in the course of their professional duties of the dangers attending the retail sale of poisons in general, and especially in the cases of arsenic and carbolic acid, must regard any violation of the salutary principle stated in the preamble of the Pharmacy Act, 1868—namely, that it is expedient for the safety of the public that persons keeping open shop for the retailing of poisons should possess a competent practical knowledge of their business, and to that end, that before commencing such business they should be duly examined as to their practical knowledge.

The majority of the Departmental Committee state in paragraph 5 of their report that they felt it incumbent upon them to ascertain (a) whether certain conditions, in their view undesirable, restricting the sale of certain poisons, had been caused by the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, and, if so (b) whether relaxation could be conceded without undue risk to human life.

It is observed with surprise that, while the former of these questions is fully discussed in the report, no statement appears

therein of the grounds on which the majority of the committee give an affirmative answer to the latter question, though evidence was submitted to the committee making clear the manner in which the technical training and knowledge of the seller under the present law operate in practice for the protection of the public.

We would call the attention of your Lordship to the additional weakening proposed by the majority of the committee of the precautions enforced by the present law in the case of arsenic. It would appear that no provision is suggested by the committee that sales of preparations of arsenic for use in agriculture and horticulture should be registered in a book kept for the purpose, analogous to that prescribed in Schedule F of the Pharmacy Act. In this connection your Lordship is respectfully reminded that even under the existing law arsenic has frequently been used for criminal purposes; that in many cases of poisoning the criminal has been traced through the evidence afforded by the chemist's poison register; and that arsenic is contained in many of the insecticides now on the market (notably one named "Ballikim-rain," prepared by Messrs. Alexander Cross & Sons, which is reported to contain arsenious oxide to the extent of 24 gr. per fl. oz.)

Further, as regards carbolic acid, it has been felt for a long time by the British Medical Association that this poison and its preparations should rank among those denominated in Part I. of the Schedule. The great frequency of cases of poisoning, whether suicidal or homicidal, by carbolic acid, and the difficulty of treating such cases, induce the Council of the Association earnestly to invite the special consideration of this point.

For the reasons, therefore, explained in this memorandum, the Council of the British Medical Association would urge, with all respect, that his Majesty's Government should not initiate or approve legislation for the purpose of facilitating the sale of poisons in the manner proposed by the majority of the Departmental Committee.

It appears proper that, inasmuch as this memorandum is submitted by a body representative of the medical profession, some reference should be made herein to the proposals directly affecting that profession put forward by Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P., in the concluding paragraph of his Supplementary Report. It is perhaps sufficient, however, to state, briefly, that members of the medical profession in general are not disposed to support these proposals, being of opinion that medical men who keep open shop for the sale of poisons should, in the public interest, be bound, as regards the employment of assistants, by the same regulations as registered chemists.

Formulas for

"Known, Admitted, and Approved" Remedies.

[The first instalment was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, September 26.]

Mixture for Piles.

Magnes. sulph.	... 3jiss.	Ichthiol.	... ... gr. iiij.
Acid. sulph. dil.	... 3iv.	Ft. pil.	
Syr. rheados ...	... 3jiss.		
Aq. chlorof. ad	... 3xx.		

Eczema-pills.

Calcii sulphidi	... gr. j.
Ft. pil.	

Boil-pills.

Calcii sulphidi	... gr. j.
Ft. pil.	

Wind-pills.

Pil. aloes et asafetidae	gr. ij.
Pil. rheo co.	... gr. ij.
Ft. pil.	

Kidney-pills.

Pulv. digitalis	... gr. j.
Pulv. jalape ...	... gr. j.
Ext. coloc. co.	... gr. ij.

Ft. pilula.

Tonic Laxative Pills.	
Pulv. ext. cascar. sag.	gr. j.
Pulv. euonymini	... gr. ss.
Pulv. iridini ...	... gr. ss.
Ext. nucis vom.	... gr. 1/2
Ext. hyoscyami	... gr. ss.

Fiat pilula.

Santonini	... gr. j.
Calomelanos ...	... gr. j.
Pil. col. et hyos.	... gr. ij.

Ft. pil.

Worm-pills.	
Quininæ sulphatis	... gr. j.
Ferri redacti ...	... gr. iiij.
Ft. pil.	

III.

Ext. gelsemii ...	... gr. ss.
Quininæ sulphatis	... gr. j.
Butyl-chloral. hyd.	... gr. ij.
Ft. pil.	

II.

Quininæ sulphatis	... gr. ij.
Butyl-chloral. hyd.	... gr. ij.

IV.

Winter Session.

Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association.

In view of the fact that during the past few weeks an Inland Revenue officer has been making a raid upon chemists' shops in Glasgow with the object of "booking" parties for alleged infringement of the Medicine-stamp Acts, which visits have in many instances been followed by demands for legal penalties varying from 10*l.* upwards—in one case the amount sought to be exacted, it is reported, was no less than 150*l.*—there was an unusually large attendance of members at the monthly meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association in the Association's Rooms, 94 West Regent Street, on Thursday evening, October 29, when the principal subject down for discussion was

PHARMACISTS AND THE INLAND REVENUE.

Mr. W. L. CURRIE (President), who was in the chair, read a telegram of apology from Mr. Rutherford Hill, and the SECRETARY (Mr. J. P. Gilmour) read one from the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST *re* the Board of Inland Revenue's declaration about organs or parts of the body. The discussion was then opened, as arranged, by

Mr. A. BOYD, who referred in detail to the powers conferred upon the I.R. Department by the statutes, saying that the 1812 Act, if properly understood and administered by the authorities, would be more beneficial than otherwise to the retail chemist. At the time (1783) the medicine stamp-tax was initiated the British revenue amounted to 12 000,000*l.*, and at present it is nearly 140,000,000*l.* The medicine stamp-duty brings in 333,371*l.* It must have been a very small item from a fiscal point of view in 1783. He believed the Legislature had something else in view besides raising revenue when it laid a tax on medicines. The consumption of any article was always restrained by taxation, and he thought the Legislature meant to draw a dividing-line between the increasing volume of quack remedies manufactured and sold by unqualified proprietors and medicinal compounds of known repute prepared by properly instructed persons, such as doctors and chemists. The 1812 Act embodies and consolidates previous statutes dealing with the subject, and this is the one that the Inland Revenue authorities work upon.* With it, therefore, chemists have strictly got to do, and it was worth their while having a knowledge of its contents and the manner in which it is administered. Its scope might be defined in a single sentence. It imposes a tax on all medicinal compounds, the proprietors or sellers of which, either by word or sign, recommend them as being beneficial for the relief or cure by internal or external use of any human ailment, excepting compounds of known composition and repute when sold by properly qualified persons. It is worth noting that it only deals with medicines. Everything else is beyond its limits. You may, without paying stamp-duty, sell and recommend felt corn and bunion plasters for relieving mechanical pressure on these ailments. In the same way you may sell and recommend extract of beef as being good for influenza on any other ailment. These are not medicines, and in their case the Act does not operate. It has been objected by some that this Act is antiquated, and that its phraseology is so obscure that it is difficult to decide where it hits and where it does not. He (Mr. Boyd) did not share this opinion, nor would he deem it good policy to ask either for its amendment or abolition. He quoted the general charge of duty and the exemptions as to entire drugs and known, admitted, and approved remedies given in

the 1812 schedule, commenting upon them as he went along. Referring to the original or first vendor in Exemption 3, he quoted Farmer *v.* Glyn-Jones, and further illustrated the point by saying that the original inventor of the formula, the first party who introduced it to the public or the profession—for instance, Dr. Dover (in the case of Dover's powder), or Dr. McKenzie (in the case of Dr. McKenzie's eye lotion)—is not in the same position as a person who introduces an article to the public by advertising it. An article introduced in the latter manner can never benefit by the exemption, while the former, always being open to the public, may. Mr. Boyd did not think it a pity that the Sanguinetti and the ammoniated-tincture-of-quinine cases were raised. We have now got an authoritative interpretation of the law. The Inland Revenue authorities have not been quite happy in their interpretation, for on the one hand they have allowed such terms as "Cough-lozenges," "Cough-mixture," &c., to be applied to unstamped compounds when sold by either qualified or unqualified persons [?]; and, on the other, they have been a trifle harassing in prosecuting chemists for recommending a known and proved compound, in doing which it has been shown they were quite within their right. The recent legal decisions have compelled the Board to change their method of administration, which will no doubt prove a benefit to legitimate pharmacy, for it will check the growing sale of penny and twopenny cures by hucksters, stores, and others under such names as "Toothache-jelly," "Corn-cure," "Headache-powders," &c., as all articles [except entire drugs] under such names, in consequence of the ruling in the Sanguinetti case, must be deemed as being held out to the public as specifics, and must be stamped after December 31. No interference will be made by the Board with the use of such labels as "Quinine-and-iron Tonic," "Digestive-powder," "Alterative Pills," "Aperient Pills," "Astringent Mixture," or such, but vendors must be careful not to use the name of any human ailment, such as "Rheumatic-mixture," unless they stamp the articles so labelled. No interference will be made with any article put up which has its formula disclosed on the label, nor with any article made in accordance with a formula found in any well-known book of reference if an indication to the effect is put on the label.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. J. P. GILMOUR opened the discussion by arguing for the abolition of the Medicine-stamp Acts. According to Mr. Boyd's showing, the revenue drawn from the duty is relatively inconsiderable of the whole volume of the revenue of the country. That is an excellent argument for the repeal of the statutes. They knew as a matter of fact that patent-medicine makers and vendors habitually exploited the Government stamp, and declared, in outrageous contradiction to the statement on the stamp itself, that the Government guaranteed the medicine they made or vended. A very practical reason why they should ask for its abolition was to be found in their everyday experience. The Acts may be very definite and explicit, but there are no two persons in Somerset House who seem to be able to give the same definition of it. One certifies an article as not liable to stamp-duty, and a few months later a second official declares the same article to be liable. Chemists found it impossible to escape unjust interference on the part of the Inland Revenue authorities. All those things form an excellent argument for the abolition of the Acts altogether. They certainly do not protect the chemist. Mr. Boyd said that after January 1 pharmacists would be free from the competition of company trading. He (Mr. Gilmour) was exceedingly doubtful of it. If the companies could not evade this new reading of the Act they would move heaven and earth to get the law amended to suit their purpose. Of course there was the personal note in connection with this matter in respect of the painful experience some Glasgow chemists have had recently, and he thought the experience of everyone was that there is very great difficulty in avoiding the vexatious interference of the Inland Revenue people with their business.

Mr. J. W. SUTHERLAND agreed with Mr. Gilmour that this law ought to be relegated to the British Museum. When they considered that the revenue from the medicine stamp-duty did not exceed much over 300,000*l.* a year, and when they considered the vexatious, annoying, and harassing way that a body of enlightened and intelligent men like the

* We hesitate to criticise, but if Mr. Boyd's remarks on the 1812 Act are taken literally they may mislead. That Act consisted of four sections and a schedule, and one section has since been repealed. There are still in force ten sections of the 1812 Act, three of the 1803 Act, and four sections and a schedule of the 1804 Act, besides fifteen sections from sixteen Acts passed subsequent to 1812. The general charge of duty and the exemptions are, of course, in the 1812 Act, but they are, with trifling verbal alterations, the same as were enacted in 1785. It is to this that Mr. Boyd appears to refer.—EDITOR.

chemists were constantly subjected to by Somerset House, it was time they arose in a body and demanded the amendment of the law or its abolition altogether. The Government, as they knew, would sell a licence to anyone, and this practically meant the exploiting of quack medicines, for the Government stamp in the eyes of poorer people indicated to them that the Government sanctioned the use of the medicines so stamped. In recent months quite a number of respectable citizens in Glasgow had been asked by the Inland Revenue to stump up 10*l.*, 20*l.*, and 100*l.* for supplying the same articles they had been supplying always without check, on the ground that they were now liable to stamp-duty. It seemed extraordinary that what a few years ago was declared to be exempt from stamp-duty should now by the same body be declared to be liable to stamp-duty. Medicine-stamp law, continued the speaker, is unique in that Somerset House people decline to give any information about it. But the Somerset House officials are our servants, and if the chemists are going to be trampled upon by one or two officials they belied their position altogether as independent people. They should apply themselves either to the remedying or improving of the law or abolishing it altogether. They should certainly be free from this harassing and vexatious reading of the law by which at one time the Somerset House officials admitted to be right what they now state to be wrong.

Mr. BRODIE agreed with Mr. Gilmour on the point he made in regard to the popular opinion of the Government stamp, and added that he would vote for the abolition of the Acts.

Mr. WALKER, of the Glasgow Apothecaries' Hall, said he had long thought some change in the administration of the Acts was necessary. Why not submit the medicine to a committee of medical men and pharmacists to see if it was what it claimed to be? He wanted to have some security for the public that what was being sold under this stamp was what it pretended to be. He did not think there was so much difficulty in interpreting the Acts. All they had to do was to put a stamp on a particular medicine and the Inland Revenue would not interfere if they stated where the recipe was to be found. He knew for a fact that some people had been too anxious to sell unstamped articles—patent medicines which ought to be stamped. (Hear, hear.) The Inland Revenue people knew that this was being done—people sailing too near the wind. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MOIR said he was one of the victims in connection with this latest raid by the Inland Revenue people. He hoped that as time went on they would still get all the concessions they had before. He would like to see the law abolished, but it was there, and there was no use in their trying to get away from it. The question was, where were they going to draw the line between what was liable and what was not? The idea of publishing the formulae he did not go in with at all. He would find out for himself what was now liable and make it liable. If they followed out that plan he believed it would pay them better. He had several articles he had stamped all along, and he found it paid to put the stamp on. The public want to read a good deal about what they swallow—(laughter)—and he thought it would pay the chemists to stamp these things.

Mr. SUTHERLAND said they required to find out at once where they were. This official from Somerset House is going about Glasgow at present. It is the fact that penalties are now being asked for iron tonics and cod-liver-oil emulsion, notwithstanding the statement published last week that they are exempt. He was not going to advocate the breaking or evading the law, but he advocated a clearer exposition of the reading of this particular Act. He would go further, and suggest the appointment of a body of responsible parties outside Somerset House as an Appeal Court, which anybody might appeal to before going to a court of law.

Mr. MOIR stated that what was taken from him by the Inland Revenue officer who called at his shop was a 3*½d.* box of corn-salve, and Somerset House asked him now why he should not pay 10*l.*

The PRESIDENT: And have you paid that?

Mr. MOIR: No, I wrote them.

The PRESIDENT: I do not think you will hear from them again. (Laughter.)

Mr. MOIR: I do not expect to. (Laughter.)

Mr. GRAY related an experience a friend of his had recently with the Inland Revenue people over the stamp-duty. He was threatened with a penalty, and replied to them that six years ago Somerset House informed him that the article was not liable to stamp-duty. They replied that they would let him off with a penalty of two guineas. He replied that he had yet to learn that by the laws of this country the prosecutors were also to be the judges, and that he was prepared to defend himself in the proper courts. A few days afterwards he received a reply that on further consideration they would allow the matter to drop. (Laughter.) Mr. Gray added: "Do not give in; fight them."

Mr. HART said he was one of those persons who had been "had" on two or three things, and amongst them malt and oil. He protested against paying any penalty, and so far he had heard nothing more of it.

Mr. DUNLOP pointed out that an interesting point deducible from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST's telegram was the power of association in obtaining a modification of the dutiable articles, and suggested that their best remedy lay in that direction.

The PRESIDENT, in the course of his review of the discussion, said there was nothing wrong in the Acts if properly read and properly worked. He had had a visit from this remarkable personage from the Inland Revenue, but he had not been able to get anything out of his place, and so far as he (Mr. Currie) knew he had no dutiable article on his premises at that moment with the exception of those exempted up to December 31. If they threatened him with penalties he would fight them and demand to be heard. He thought that after all was said and done the least thing they did with the Inland Revenue at the present time would seem the better in the long run. He did not favour abolition of the Acts by any means, and he believed they would revert almost to the old state of things before the end of the year.

A NOTE ON CHINESE PILLS

was contributed by Mr. Thomas Maben, and in the absence of the author through indisposition was read by the SECRETARY. The author stated that for the opportunity of writing the note he was indebted to the courtesy of their Hon. President (Mr. John Macmillan), who had been good enough to place in his hands the box of Chinese tonic-pills (which was exhibited at the meeting), of which the note was a brief description. On turning up some old journals he found that similar pills had already been described, a short notice with illustrations having appeared as far back as 1851. The natural inference from this might be that the Chinese pill-roller had learned nothing and forgot nothing during these fifty years, but if a Chinaman were to meet with a box, say, of Holloway's pills of fifty years ago and one of to-day, he would be quite as fully justified in believing that we had made no progress in pill-rolling either. The pill itself consists of a large piece of pill-mass, round, about 1 inch in diameter, weighing about 180 gr., and covered with gold-leaf. This is enclosed in a casing of wax, the idea doubtless being to afford protection from atmospheric influences. The pill is loose in the wax casing, and it appears as if the wax had been moulded in two portions, these being joined together by gently warming the edges after the pill is enclosed. The wax is then stamped with one or more stamps or "chops," the red "chop" being the chemist's trade-mark, and the golden "chop" the name of the pill. Thereafter they are packed in cotton-wool in a box covered with figured silk. The red label on the box gives the chemist's name and address, and a description of the virtues of the pills, which are still further advertised by means of handbills contained in the box. Mr. Crawford, of Singapore, who sent home the pills, also sent a translation of part of the leaflets:

These pills brighten the countenance, invigorate the body, more particularly the kidneys, increase the appetite, soften the complexion [literally, make the complexion oily], quieten the heart, soothe the respiration, cure fever, ringing in the ears, blurring of the vision, loss of blood, lumbago, &c.

The pill is not taken entire for one dose, the patient breaking off a piece when required about the size of a pea. The Chinese also have pills about the size of our little liver-pills.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT Mr. Maben was thanked for his communication.

Wakefield Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Victoria Temperance Hotel, Wakefield, on Tuesday evening, November 3. Mr. Pollard (President) took the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Billington, Duffin, Judge (Hon. Secretary), and Whaley.

STAMPED-MEDICINE MATTERS.

In the early stages of the meeting there was an interesting discussion as to the action of the Excise authorities in regard to dutiable medicines, and diverse opinions were expressed. It was stated that the Excise officers of the West Riding had been active of late, and had taken up a good many cases. Mr. BILLINGTON thought it would be a good thing for all concerned if the Excise officers would make it their business to warn chemists in the matter of selling these articles. In this way the honest chemist made aware of liability would not be in the same class as he who sold against the statute after being warned. Mr. WHALEY said it was a good thing to be a member of the P.A.T.A. under such conditions, and Mr. DUFFIN commended the C.D.A., and so the conversation was continued in chatty style. This subject over the HON. SECRETARY referred to the appointment of Mr. Pollard as President of the West Riding Federation, complimenting him upon it. Mr. POLLARD briefly replied.

"Zambok" was next mentioned, and some indignation manifested at the fact that recently when the agent was in Wakefield he required chemists who bought the article to sign a paper to the effect that they would not sell it for less than 1s. 1d. They had to pay 1s. for it, and the requirement was characterised as insulting.

A question was raised as to what should be charged for making up a prescription from a copy in English, and all agreed that the charge should be the same as in other cases. The member who raised the point said that he made up such a prescription recently, and the man commented, "Why, there are only three things in it; it ought to be 3d."

Leeds Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Society was held in the Church Institute, Leeds, on October 29, Mr. F. W. Branson, F.I.C., in the chair.

Miss Ellen Norfolk, Messrs. Hardman, Castelow, Kirk, Overend, Horner, Lister, Bowie, Islip, and Craven were elected members.

Mr. F. C. LONG (Hon. Secretary) read the annual report, which gave a *résumé* of the work of the past year. It proceeded to state that, through the kindness of Mr. W. P. Bowman, the committee is able to offer the sum of 5*l.* annually for students who are associates of the Society attending lectures in chemistry, *materia medica*, botany, practical pharmacy, or any other subject in connection with the study of pharmacy. Mr. Gough having offered to rearrange the *materia medica* specimens and the books in the library, the committee accepted his proffered aid, whilst Mr. W. P. Bowman and Mr. Branson supplied the specimens and gave the following books: Hager's "Handbook of Pharmacy," Attfield's "Chemistry" (latest edition), Greenish's "Food and Drugs" and "Materia Medica," White and Humphrey's "Pharmacopedia," and Caspary's "Pharmacy." The whole has been catalogued and brought up to date, and the Association now has a useful and valuable library of reference. The crusade against the Pharmacy Acts relating to the sale of poisons has been carefully watched, and the attention of the members of the city called to the proposed Pharmacy Act and its provisions explained. The committee decided to become affiliated to the National Federation of Local Associations.

The Treasurer's account was presented, and showed a balance in hand of 1*l.* 1s. 7*d.*

On the motion of Mr. GEO. WARD, F.I.C., seconded by Mr. YENDALL, the report and balance-sheet were adopted.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, Mr. Geo. Norfolk, Ilkley; Vice-President, Mr. H. D. Pollett; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Blacock; Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. C. Long, Headingley; committee, Messrs. Castelow, Hollingsworth, Johnson, Mundell, Preston, and Sargent.

Votes of thanks having been accorded, the meeting adjourned.

Barnsley Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held on Thursday, October 29, at the Royal Hotel, Barnsley. The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer showed the Association to be in a flourishing condition. The election of Council resulted as follows: President, Mr. H. B. Billington; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. B. Elliston and J. E. Matthew; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Nash; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Rigby; and Messrs. A. R. Tomlin, G. A. Pickering, W. A. Bellamy, and Mr. J. P. Norwood members of committee. A discussion on the medicine-stamp question took place, a telegram being read from the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST announcing that the Board of Inland Revenue had consented to allow the sale of medicines with names referring to parts of the body free from stamp-duty. The discussion was adjourned to a future meeting, as (writes the reporter) "there seems such a muddle at present that it would be better to wait for further developments and concessions by the Board of Inland Revenue."

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

ON Thursday, October 29, the members of the Association to the number of about forty paid a visit to the London Hospital Dispensary. Mr. J. A. Jennings, the chief of the dispensary, in the absence of the Secretary of the hospital, Mr. Morris, Ph.C., guided the visitors through his particular domain. The idea of the Chairman of the Hospital Committee is that the poorest denizen of the East-End who seeks the aid of the hospital is entitled to the same treatment as the man of wealth who can afford to consult a West-End specialist. Apparently it is better, from a medical point of view, to be very poor down Whitechapel way than, for instance, to be sufficiently wealthy to call for the solicitous care of the income-tax collector. At any rate, at the London Hospital the Jewish alien obtains, if his case warrants it, that advice gratuitously for which his more opulent compatriot in Park Lane pays heavily, and from the same physician. As regards the medicine it is impossible to conceive that any London pharmacy could turn it out purer, fresher, or more accurately prepared. The pills, for instance, are handed to the out-patients in an old-fashioned "screw" of paper bearing the directions for taking, but the paper itself is certainly better than what the average chemist can afford to use for his private correspondence, and the pills, though they might not pass as examples of a perfect sphere, would stand a rigid test by a public analyst. Mr. Jennings has a well-fitted-up laboratory of his own, and all drugs, &c., entering the dispensary are systematically tested and standardised. The dispensary is very self-contained, every thing that can be made conveniently being prepared in the laboratories. The machinery is driven by electricity, and is of the most modern character. It will be remembered that the London Hospital has been practically rebuilt quite recently; the alterations, in fact, are not yet quite finished. The waiting-hall for the out-patients, capable of seating some 1,500 persons, is a room of magnificent proportions, and with its mosaic floor, tiled walls, and stained-glass windows, is well worthy of London's largest hospital. Mr. Britton, the President of the Association, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Jennings for his kindness in receiving the Association, echoed the feeling of the members who formed the party when he stated that a year or two in the dispensary would undoubtedly prove a valuable addition to a chemist's pharmaceutical training.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

THE opening meeting of the twenty-seventh session was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, October 28, at 9.15 P.M., Mr. Archibald Currie, Ph.C. (President), in the chair. After preliminary business the SECRETARY (Mr. J. W. Plenderleith) read the report on

THE WORK OF THE SUMMER SESSION,

from which it appeared that all the outings and demonstrations had been successfully carried out and with better attendances than in some former years. The early morning

excursion had been well attended and appeared to meet a felt want. He also read

THE REPORT OF THE PRIZE COMMITTEE,

from which it appeared that the McLaren Prize in prescriptions, elementary botany, elementary chemistry, and *materia medica* had been gained by James Alexander Gray (Duncan, Flockhart & Co.), 139 Prince's Street, with 73 per cent. of marks, and the Dott Physics Prize in dynamics, hydrostatics, and heat, by George Steven (Paton & Finlay), 177 Bruntfield Place, with 64 per cent. of marks. Both reports were adopted.

Dr. GEORGE COULL, commenting on the latter, said it was to be regretted that a larger number did not compete for the prizes. He could testify from experience that the work involved in preparing was of the highest value in subsequent professional examinations.

In the absence of the donors, Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL presented to Mr. J. A. Gray a class-ticket for a three months' evening course at the Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy, and to Mr. George Steven, Attfield's "Chemistry," John's "Flowers of the Field," Cicero's "Pro Flancio," Alcroft's "Roman History," and Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales." Thanks were awarded to the donors.

The PRESIDENT then proceeded to deliver his opening address on

THE EDUCATION OF THE PHARMACIST.

Mr. Currie commenced by commenting briefly on the changes in pharmacy during the history of the Association, and considered the subject of his address in the approved Scotch style, "three heads"—viz., (1) the opportunities for study, (2) the examination or test of knowledge, and (3) the application of our knowledge to our conditions of life. As to the first, he said those who live in a large city have no lack of opportunities, but those outside are very different. Masters in many cases are unwilling or unable to point out to their apprentices the proper road of study to pursue, the most suitable books, or the final requirements of the examination, or the commercial side of business may have absorbed all their energies, and they neither know nor care what becomes of their apprentices so long as they ease them of the drudgery of their business. He condemned such men for taking apprentices. Yet there are many opportunities in the daily work to learn the principles and facts of the various sciences pertaining to pharmacy. The opening of a bottle of soda-water should teach something of Boyle's law and the solution of gases under pressure. The mixing of a seidlitz-powder and the consequent evolution of CO_2 embody the truths of chemical action and decomposition. The massing of a pill and the preparation of an emulsion teach us the principles of pharmacy and dispensing, while in handling drugs we become aware of their physical characteristics, and learn to distinguish the true from the false. Even in dusting bottles we may learn the Latin names and terminations of drugs and chemicals, and become familiar with their appearance. In fact, there is no operation in pharmacy, bar the handling of "patents" and proprietaries, which may not teach us something; and if we make a point of looking for the solution of any difficulty, or the settling of any point we do not understand, in some book dealing with the subject at the very time we are handling the article, such knowledge so acquired will never be forgotten, and will be a source of pleasure at the time and a satisfaction ever afterwards. Speaking of examination, he said this is the grand aim and goal of the majority, but he deprecated the habit of selling books and apparatus after the ordeal is over. The standard of examination is thought by many to be too high and beyond the needs and wants of the time, and in proof of this they point to the increasing percentage of failures. The explanation, he said, does not lie there, but in three things: (1) insufficient preparation, (2) increased scope and stringency of examination, and (3) a want of gradual and systematic preparation and training. Mr. Currie treated these *seriatim*, urging study during apprenticeship as the initial remedy for the first. He did not deny, but justified the second (increased scope and stringency of examination), and suggested that it might be divided. The field of study is now so widened that it offers a severe physical and mental strain even to those who have conscientiously prepared themselves

for a long time for examination. Let us have first, say, an examination in chemistry, botany and physics, and, six months after, *materia medica* and pharmacy. The study of the first-named subjects underlies a proper appreciation of the second. As to the third cause of failure (want of gradual and systematic preparation and training), he believed a two or three years' course of systematic study either in a university or recognised "school of pharmacy" would tend materially to raise the percentage of passes, and those who passed would be more likely to retain the knowledge so acquired than by the present haphazard system. Dealing with the application of the knowledge acquired to our conditions of life, Mr. Currie pointed out that keeping open shop for the sale of poisons is a very small part of our duties to the public. Galenicals should be made at home, and the examination knowledge can be further utilised by analysis of urine, water, and milk; the detection of alum in bread, and of sand in pepper; identification of bacteria found in sewage, and the recognition of those diseases caused by bacteria, together with their various reactions and behaviour; a knowledge of the principles of the preparation of toxins and antitoxins.

Mr. A. E. KELLY (Vice-President), in moving a vote of thanks, said division of the Minor examination would do good. He thought the failures were due to cramming more than anything else, and this was because the conditions of the examination were such as to give no opportunity for the proper assimilation of the knowledge acquired.

Mr. THOMAS STEPHENSON, in seconding the motion, said it was the duty of masters to do everything possible to make the hours easier for employees, and he did not see why a great many of the pharmacies in Edinburgh could not be shut at a much earlier hour. Their Association could do much to promote social intercourse during the winter months. He strongly advised them not to give up study when the examination was passed, for they would find it could be made profitable. He also suggested that they should widen their interests and have something entirely away from business.

Mr. GLASS supported the vote, which was passed with acclamation.

Mr. David Rodger having been appointed interim Treasurer during the absence of Mr. E. O. Rowland, the meeting closed.

Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

On October 30 this Association held its first smoking-concert in the Gresham Hotel, Upper Sackville Street. The function proved most successful. Amongst the contributors to the entertainment were Messrs. W. H. Cope, A. Gaynor, H. A. Jeffs, Thos. Kenny, C. Burton, J. McGough, W. Curtis, W. Hennell, G. Hennell, G. O'Callaghan, W. Rathbone, Mayhew, Manning, and Burke. Three hundred of the members and friends were present, and the PRESIDENT took the opportunity of remarking that the maiden attempt of the Association to bring together all sorts of good fellows had met with signal success.

At Dublin on Monday, November 2, a committee-meeting was held at 73 Harcourt Street, the President (Mr. Edgar B. Aplin) in the chair. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. R. G. Creed) reported on the concert, by which over 4/- had been added to the funds. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to those who assisted at the function. The PRESIDENT stated that Mr. Patrick Kelly, M.C.P.S.I., will deliver the inaugural lecture on November 16. Admission is to be by ticket (free). Mr. Aplin further stated that Surgeon Charles has consented to read a paper on the first Monday in January on the "Therapeutic Effects of Medicines." The question of framing a by-law to provide for honorary Vice-Presidents was discussed. Mr. T. SPOKE mentioned the names of Sir Chas. Cameron, K.C.B., Professor Tichborne, Surgeon Jameson Johnston, Dr. Ninion Falkiner, Dr. Meredith, R. Whitla, and Surgeon Charles as likely Vice-Presidents, they being, he said, literally "old boys" of pharmacy. The PRESIDENT felt sure that it only required the Executive to act in the matter to ensure the good offices of those named. The motion was put down for the next general meeting. The Secretary was directed to write to Messrs. McKnight and Gilbert in relation to their

position as Vice-Presidents. Two ordinary and two honorary members were elected. It was agreed to have a supper early in January next in the Gresham Hotel. Circulars relating to outstanding subscriptions were ordered to be issued, and a further circular, extending a cordial invitation to membership, was put in hand. A meeting of the Finance Committee was convened for Friday evening, November 6, at 8 P.M., at 73 Harcourt Street.

Halifax Chemists' Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting was held on Monday evening, November 2, at the Old Cock Hotel, Halifax, Mr. Thos. Briggs (President) in the chair. There were present Messrs. Black (Secretary), G. M. Cobb, W. S. Thompson, H. Brierley, H. Hebden, W. Fielding, C. Fielding, J. Tiffany, H. Booth, and P. Swire.

The PRESIDENT and others referred to the severe illness of Mr. W. Haigh, and a resolution of sympathy with him was passed.

Messrs. W. S. Thompson, H. Hebden, and P. Swire were appointed delegates to the West Riding Federation. Messrs. Swire and Brierley were appointed to wait upon Mr. W. C. Hebden and ask him to reconsider his decision to resign his membership owing to ill-health.

TRADE MATTERS.

The SECRETARY said he had received a letter from Mr. Timmins, of Hartlepool, asking for information as to what Halifax chemists are doing about co-operative buying. He had replied.

After Mr. COBB had made some remarks about the price-lists, which are expected to be ready soon, a brisk discussion took place on the "Sparklet" syphons, several members complaining of the unsatisfactory conditions under which they are supplied. It was resolved that the members refuse to stock "Sparklet" syphons under present conditions and unless they are put on the P.A.T.A. list.

Mr. J. TIFFANY drew attention to an advertisement of Woolleys (Limited), Blackburn, of their preparation, described in the advertisement as "Emulsion 55 of cod-liver oil with hypophosphites." He wanted the views of the members as to whether it is liable to stamp-duty. After varied expressions of opinion, Mr. HEBDEN said that "Emulsion 55" is not liable, and "55 emulsion" is liable. Mr. TIFFANY protested that it is an evasion of the Act; and the PRESIDENT regarded the matter as one that should be discussed by chemists and druggists all round, with a view to putting a stop to it. He moved that they draw the attention of all the trade journals, also Mr. Glyn-Jones, to the matter. Mr. C. FIELDING: Will it not be a most effective way to ask the Pharmaceutical Society to draw the attention of the Inland Revenue authorities to the matter? Mr. SWIRE thought the Chemists' Defence Association better. The motion was agreed to.

THE MEDICINE-STAMP ACTS.

The PRESIDENT introduced this subject, explaining how matters stand now, and referring to labels said it appeared to him that they could evade the Act in many ways. For instance, they could say "chest and lung tonic" instead of "cough-mixture"; he was inclined to think that was stronger than "cough-mixture." Messrs. BLACK, HEBDEN, TIFFANY, COBB, BRIERLY, and THOMPSON spoke, the debate being of a conversational style, the members trying to help each other with their ideas of the law, and altogether a profitable time was spent.

It was decided to hold a "social evening" in connection with the Association next month.

London Chemists' Association.

SOUTH LONDON BRANCH.

THE meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, November 4, at the Horns Hotel, Kennington. About twenty members were present, and the chair was taken by Mr. Truman. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. Betty) read the annual report, stating that there is a small balance in hand and that the membership is 250. He was very glad to see that

chemists are becoming keener in looking after their own interests. A vote was passed thanking Messrs. Watson-Will and Truman for help rendered. The committee members were all re-elected with the exception of Mr. Bunker, whose place was filled by Mr. J. A. Aldridge. Mr. Bunker was thanked for past services. Mr. TRUMAN rose and said that the latest decision of the I.R. authorities had rendered useless the paper he was to read, and asked to be allowed to withdraw it. Mr. Truman was persuaded to communicate his paper at the next meeting.

Mr. R. WILLSON then read a paper on the

UNJUST APPLICATION OF THE LAWS AFFECTING CHEMISTS.

Mr. Willson said he wished to stir up chemists to put an end to unjust prosecutions in connection with the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Stamp Acts, and use all the powers they had to that end. It is, he said, impossible for chemists to keep their stocks in an absolutely perfect condition. They do the best they can, and keep the best things, but the officials to get an easy conviction take tricky things like sweet nitre, which are not twice sold the same strength. Another objectionable thing is arbitrary selection of standards. Why should chemists be put in the same box as the man who mixes 4 oz. of butter with 12 oz. of margarine and sells it as butter? The coroners also in cases of poisoning treat chemists worse than anybody else, but in all cases the Pharmaceutical Society looks on calmly, and does not take action. Chemists were beginning to feel the power of combined action, and are determined to have their just claims respected. He therefore moved as follows:

That this meeting recommends the Executive of the L.C.A. to urge the Pharmaceutical Society to take official and immediate action in every case in which a chemist who is qualified under their auspices is unjustly treated in any court whatever.

After considerable discussion, it was decided to allow the motion to lie on the table.

Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

WE have received from Mr. Watson-Will, 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E., the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Federation, a copy of the revised rules suggested by the Executive Committee for conducting committees and small associations connected with the drug-trade. Along with the new rules, of which a copy can be obtained from Mr. Watson-Will by anyone interested is a report of the ninth annual meeting of the Federation, held at Bristol, which is prefaced by a useful statement from the pen of the Secretary, in the course of which we learn that the Executive suggests the following subjects for discussion by local associations during the coming winter: (a) Territorial representation, (b) new Pharmacy Bill, (c) should the Federation hold two general meetings per annum? (d) Poisons Bill, (e) mutual co-operation amongst pharmacists in buying, &c., (f) division of the Minor examination.

Blackpool and Fylde Chemists' Association.

THE first monthly meeting of the session was held on November 3 at the Palatine Hotel, Blackpool, Mr. Turner presiding over a good muster. After some preliminary business, the PRESIDENT initiated a discussion on the publication by the organ of the Pharmaceutical Society (G.B.) of formulæ in English, and a resolution was unanimously adopted urging the advantages of Latin and apothecaries' symbols.

Hull Chemists' Trade Association.

A WELL-ATTENDED MEETING was held on Tuesday evening, November 3, in a room lent by Mr. Cockrill. It was desired to add another popular infants' food in addition to "Allenburys'" to the list of proprietaries already stocked by members, and Mr. Twigg, of Withernsea, submitted quotations received by him in answer to inquiries from Bengers, Neave, and Mellin. It was decided that Bengers (Limited) do not allow a sufficient margin for the outlay of 25*l.* The best terms for Neave's food are 7*s.* 4*d.* per dozen, and it is generally pushed as a leading line by stores, &c., at 7*½d.*

consequently it was decided to leave it alone. Mellin's food was finally selected, but the meeting was of opinion that the protected price should be higher. A sample of finely levigated boric acid was unanimously approved of, and orders placed for it.

A number of other samples were shown and business discussed, including cotton-wool and lint, borax, sulphur, &c. A very successful meeting was brought to a close at eleven o'clock. The next meeting is to be on November 17.

Glasgow Chemists' Trade Association.

THE annual meeting was held at 94 West Regent Street on Tuesday, November 3. Mr. J. W. Sutherland, the President, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. The proceedings were opened by an address from the PRESIDENT, in which he reviewed the committee's work during the past year with the object of securing better profits on proprietary articles sold by chemists. Experience had convinced him that the only satisfactory way of dealing with the matter was to press upon manufacturers that it would be to their interest, as well as to that of the trade, to put their proprietaries upon the P.A.T.A. list. He commented upon the absurdity of a body of intelligent men like chemists cutting each other's throats on a matter of prices, but believed that the Association had done good work in relieving that tendency in the district. He spoke at some length on the P.A.T.A. Convention held in London a year ago, also about the Business Committee's report and the recent raid in Glasgow by Inland Revenue officers in purchasing un-stamped medicines, and in other directions showed the advantages that accrue from having a Chemists' Trade Association to look after such matters as these. In conclusion, he regretted to state that Mr. Dunlop had intimated his resignation as Secretary, after having carried on the work in the most admirable manner during the past eighteen months.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were submitted. The committee had held thirteen meetings during the year, and they were all very well attended. The financial statement showed that, after meeting all expenses, there was a balance in hand of ten guineas. Office-bearers were afterwards appointed.

Festivities.

HONOURING THE SENIOR PARTNER.

We reported on October 24 a complimentary dinner to Mr. Goddard Clarke, Mayor of Camberwell, and now we learn that his partner and brother-in-law, Mr. Henry Potter, Mayor of Stepney, had a similar honour at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday evening, October 29. It was to signalise the year's happy work, and was given by the aldermen and councillors, Alderman John Harris, C.C., being in the chair. It was an excellent function from beginning to end, the speaking being interspersed with good music. Mr. Stuart M. Samuel, M.P., replied for "The Houses of Parliament," after which "The London County Council" was toasted, Mr. A. T. Williams replying. The Chairman, in giving "The Mayor and Prosperity to the Borough of Stepney," favourably contrasted Stepney with other metropolitan boroughs, and referred to the great task that was undertaken by the first Mayor in ruling a borough made up of four previously independent districts. That work had been admirably performed by Mr. Councillor Potter. In every possible way the Mayor had sacrificed himself for the borough, and had taken an interest in every little detail of the Council's work. They all owed him the greatest debt of gratitude, for to all he had been accessible and all had benefited by his genial, effective, and capable presidency of the borough. The toast was drunk with musical honours; and Mr. Potter, in his reply, dealt with the events of the year, which included visits of the King and Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales. Mr. Goddard Clarke replied for the visitors. We understand that the Stepney Council want Mr. Potter to serve another year as mayor.

BOURNEMOUTH PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual supper was served at the Hôtel Métropole, Bournemouth, on October 30. The chair was taken by the President (Mr. E. Worth) at eight o'clock, and there were present Mr. T. H. W. Idris, L.C.C., and Dr. Coles (guests of the Association), and thirty-one members, this being a record number in the history of the Association. After the loyal toasts Mr. J. Toone proposed the health of Mr. T. H. W. Idris, saying that he is a man in every way worthy of honour and respect—a man who had risen to the top rank in pharmacy from the very lowest rung of the ladder. He referred to the excellent work Mr. Idris had done upon the L.C.C., especially on the Sanitary Committee, and to his selection as a candidate for Parliament, hoping that some day he might find him one of H.M. Cabinet Ministers. Mr. Idris, in responding, expressed great pleasure at the opportunity of renewing acquaintances, and referred to the first time he visited Bournemouth—twenty-five years ago—with his young family, who soon after their arrival managed to contract scarlet fever. He viewed with a considerable amount of envy the pharmacists of Bournemouth, especially their good relations with the medical men of the town, saying that if all towns were like Bournemouth his Bristol speech would never have been delivered. He next referred to his recent visit to Paris, and spoke very feelingly of his companionship with Mr. Atkins. Mr. Idris considered the position of the French pharmacist one which ought to be held by pharmacists in this country. Pharmacy in France is a regular branch of the Medical Faculty, and both pharmacist and doctor respect each other's functions. The social position also is better. Referring to the report of his intention to enter Parliament, Mr. Idris said his principal desire was to do something for his craft. Mr. Bridge next proposed "Success to the Local Association," coupled with the name of the President, and Mr. Worth responded. Mr. Hardwick proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary (Mr. F. Rose) for the very able manner in which he had carried out the arrangements for the evening, and also to Dr. Coles, who added so greatly to the evening's enjoyment by his musical ability. Mr. Rose and Dr. Coles responded. During the evening songs and sketches were given by Dr. Coles and Messrs. Bridge, Keen, Reed, and Williams, and a recitation by Mr. Curtis.

Business Changes.

MESSRS. LINDSAYS (LIMITED), wholesale chemists, have acquired the premises 485 to 489 Kingsland Road, N.

MR. KARL A. FRITZSCHE, Leipzig, son of Mr. H. T. Fritzsche, has become a partner of Fritzsche Brothers, New York.

MR. S. R. MACKEE, chemist and druggist, has sold his business at 105A High Street, Tunstall, to Mr. J. G. Malling.

MR. W. SHARMAN, pharmaceutical chemist, is transferring his business from 86 Amhurst Road to 186 Mare Street, Hackney, N.E.

MESSRS. PARKES (LIMITED), store chemists, have recently opened premises at 5 Station Parade, South End Road, Hampstead, N.W.

MESSRS. BELL & CO., chemists, 186 Essex Road, N., of which Mr. R. S. Page is proprietor, have just completed a new front to their premises. Each of the windows of the old front had sixteen panes of glass, and the front was one of the oldest in the North of London.

At the Dundee Police Court, on November 3, John McPherson, described as a chemist, was fined 15s., with the alternative of ten days in gaol, for malicious mischief—viz., kicking at the door of a chemist's shop in High Street.

THE *Daily Telegraph*, in its "Science Notes" last week, referred to Sir Henry Roscoe's paper on duty-free spirit, read at Southport in September. In the course of remarks on the subject, our contemporary says: "Even now pure alcohol is not manufactured in this country; all of it comes from Germany, and biologists, who need it for their specimens, still pay the full duty—11s. per gal." What the *D.T.* should have said is that absolute alcohol is not manufactured in this country, and that the duty is 11s. per proof gal. Biologists can get all the pure alcohol that they require British made, and for their specimens they can have it duty-free in the form of non-mineralised methylated spirit, which answers the purpose as well as anything.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. W. L. FOULSTON & CO., of Hull, have brought out the "Foulston" series of panelled "flats," and one was illustrated in the C. & D. advertisement last week, page 59. It was a 3-oz. size, not 4-oz. as stated in the advertisement.

STRICNOFINE.—Mr. G. S. V. Wills, pharmaceutical chemist, South Croydon, is issuing an artistic and striking showcard for "Stricnofine," which he introduced to the trade some time ago. The showcard is in vermilion and black, and shows one of King Edward VII.'s servants bringing his Royal master "the king of tonics." The card is sure to create interest wherever it is shown.

AN AILMENT-NAME HANDBILL for registered chemists has been produced by Messrs. James Townsend & Son, printers, Exeter. It tells effectively that 1d. boxes of certain pills, &c., cannot be sold by everybody after a certain date, "whereas all persons may obtain the genuine article, fully labelled and boxed, from the qualified chemist only." Messrs. Townsend & Son will send a specimen and prices to any of our subscribers who send them a postcard.

MESSRS. ALLEN & HANBURYS (LIMITED), Bethnal Green, E., are quite progressive in the matter of soap-wrapers by frequently adding new designs artistically produced in colours and gold. We have before us a sample booklet, comprising a lithographed series of wrappers, which give the chemist excellent choice in style, while cartons and boxes are equally attractive, and are made to match the wrappers. The firm will send samples to any chemist, along with their price-list for soaps and perfumes. We may add that the samples that we now refer to are a new series additional to that which was in the company's list inserted in our Summer Number.

MEDICINAL PASTILLES AND PELLETS.—Messrs. Wyleys (Limited), of Coventry, have long made it their study to produce soft gelatin-pastilles and lozenge-pellets in an attractive style ready for retailing. They send us this week a series of samples consisting of antiseptic throat-pastilles, menthol-and-eucalyptus pastilles (both of these put up in 2-oz. and 4-oz. tins, and, of course, non-dutiable), a cure for cold and influenza (in chocolate-coated tablet-form, the bottles containing twenty-five or fifty each), and pellets including "bronchial," "cough," and "voice and chest." The last-named are put up in slide boxes, and can be supplied either stamped or labelled in non-dutiable manner. They are all saleable lines, and our subscribers would do well to get samples of them.

"THE MYSTERIES ALMANACK" is the title which Mr. A. C. Wootton, Barrymore, North Finchley, N., has selected for his chemists' almanack for 1904. Artistically and daintily produced, as chemists' almanacks should be, this one excels any we have seen before in affording to chemists' customers information regarding chemical and physical forces which will elevate, if possible, their estimation of the chemists' abilities and learning. Natural magic is portrayed in attractive style, and Mr. Wootton has made a special point of including advice respecting certain drugs, chemicals, and accessories sold by pharmacists. "Under the new regulations of the Board of Inland Revenue," he says, "it is clearly to the interest of chemists to cultivate business in 'known, admitted, and approved' remedies, and these pages are calculated to help that object." There is ample provision in the almanack for chemists' own advertising. Quantities of 250 upwards are supplied on terms which may be obtained from Mr. Wootton on application.

OPTICAL REQUISITES.—Mr. David Reid, chemist and druggist, 2 Queen Street, Exeter, has submitted to us a prescription-book which he has devised for opticians and ophthalmic surgeons. The book is called the "Simplex," and each opening provides space for entering the particulars adduced from an examination of the eyes of four cases. The form upon which the entries are made contains spaces for almost every possible entry both in sight-testing and frame-measurement. An index is provided of such a kind that it can be used simultaneously with the book itself. Space is provided for some two thousand entries. Chemist-opticians will find the "Simplex" prescription-book an orderly way of

recording the results of sight-testing. Mr. Reid also sends us a specimen of his test-types for near vision. The types are very distinctly printed, a novel feature being the inclusion of two pages of a railway time-table. The two test-cards are hinged like a book, and the surfaces are varnished.

MESSRS. KAY BROTHERS (LIMITED), of Stockport, inform us that they have now in the press their "almanack and family reference" for 1904, and they invite any of our subscribers to send for a parcel. The almanack is to have a new cover, and the firm will print any chemist's name and address, and send the whole free with a parcel of wrapped handbills carriage paid. The firm are also introducing an exceedingly clever Christmas novelty for what they call "petal work." In a box are several bottles of colours with a number of cards and glass rods. All that one has to do to produce an astonishing reproduction of the varicoloured petal of a flower is to put a few touches of the paints, including a dash of gold, on a card and press another card against it. It is an interesting occupation for children, who produce some charming effects with the colours, including pictorial postcards. The article is just one for chemists to stock and sell. No. 1 box retails at 1s. 6d., and No. 3 at 3s., containing double No. 1. Other novelties are the "Robstitute" toilet-soap for theatrical people, which enables them to wash off grease-paint without the rubbing with oil; "Robstitute" plate-powder, and a 6d. non-inflammable metal-polish.

Personalities.

MR. FREDERICK DAVIS will be the soloist at the organ-recital at St. Sepulchre's Church, E.C., next Monday, at 1 P.M.

"SOAP-PERFUMES AND THEIR FASHIONS" was the title of an article by Mr. John C. Umney, F.C.S., which appeared in the first number of the *Daily Mirror*. It was quite interesting down to the little "advt." at the end.

MR. ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C., who is a regular contributor to our columns, has passed in the first-class the intermediate LL.B. examination of the London University. Mr. Parry has only his finals to pass before qualifying as a barrister-at-law and as an LL.B.

MESSRS. NITSCHE AND HOFFMANN, two employés of Mr. J. D. Riedel, Berlin, who have been in his service since 1865, were recently decorated by Dr. Rasch, Royal Trades-Inspector, with the long-service medal ("allgemeine Ehrenzeichen") in the presence of 350 of their fellow-workers.

DR. F. W. PASSMORE (Messrs. Helbing & Passmore, consulting chemists, 63 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.) has returned from the United States. The immediate object of Dr. Passmore's visit was to give evidence in New York regarding the infringement of certain patents, and in a chat which we had with him we learned that the law's delays are express speed in this country compared with the rate at which the law moves in the United States. Day after day during three weeks Dr. Passmore was cross-examined in chambers, intervals of half-an-hour frequently occurring between questions, during which the examining counsel would consult as to how the next question should be framed, their object being to catch the witness and "break him" if possible. During his sojourn in New York Dr. Passmore made the acquaintance of leading chemists and pharmacists, and was entertained to luncheon at the Drug Club by Mr. Caswell A. Mayo, editor of the *American Druggist*, where he made the acquaintance of several prominent pharmacists. Dr. Passmore was also taken over the New York College of Pharmacy by Professor Coblenz, and was much impressed by the equipment of the college, as well as with the large number of students who work in it. The pharmaceutical-laboratory and the chemical-laboratory enable 160 students to work in each at one time, and both are filled just now. Dr. Passmore informs us that the arrangements for the annual meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry in New York next year are rapidly maturing, and already the local committee have received a large sum to entertain visitors from this side. The meeting promises to be the best in the history of the Society so far, and our American friends expect at least two hundred of the British members to avail themselves of the opportunity which they are giving them to make a tour through the United States as far as St. Louis.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Wholesalers

can so easily—as Mr. J. C. Umney explains—avoid the incidence of the medicine-tax on preparations which they manufacture for retail chemists that, from the point of view of the latter, I can hardly help hoping they will adopt one or other of those methods in preference to pressing the Board of Inland Revenue for a special relaxation of the law in their own favour in such transactions. The statutory exemption established in the *Farmer v. Glynn-Jones* case depends for its value on the "guild" privileges which it apparently holds out to qualified chemists, and so far the Board appear disposed to maintain this principle in administration. A minute's consideration will show that this principle assumes that the public is to benefit by the qualification. Parliaments a hundred years ago believed that it was in the interest of the public that persons practising arts and mysteries should have been trained thereto. While the Board rely upon the qualification-test simply they are on safe ground, or at least on the ground taken by the legislation of 1812. Any concession in favour of wholesalers as such must extend to unqualified as well as to qualified persons, and can hardly fail to break down the distinction which, at least for the present, prevails.

The Claim of Apothecaries' Assistants

to be qualified persons within the meaning of the Pharmacy Act was so hopelessly ill-founded that it is astonishing it was ever asserted in a court of law. It is to be presumed that in the Bradford case reported last week the defendant's employers were the real authors of the contention, and it can hardly be doubted that they will pay the penalty and costs incurred. If, however, it was their intention to do this, I cannot see why they should not have claimed the credit of their public-spirited action in court. They are not legally liable unless they have specifically made themselves so, but they would be if the new Pharmacy Bill were passed. As the circumstances occurred in Bradford, these and the comments of Judge Bompas should be brought directly to the notice of Mr. Wanklyn, M.P., who is a backer of the Bill, and of his colleagues in the representation of that city.

We are Progressing

in regard to the Pharmacy Bill. It is particularly gratifying to read the declaration of the President of the Pharmaceutical Society at Bradford that "we," meaning, I suppose, the Council, "are not prepared to modify Clause 7 one iota." We have been long enough getting to that sticking point; but if all the Council and the political chemists in the country are prepared to talk in that way and to mean it, there is a chance for the Bill. There is none otherwise. To wrest justice from the Legislature in the face of members like Mr. James Bailey, who cynically told a deputation of Camberwell chemists last spring that he could not vote for the Bill with that clause in it because "he had a great deal of money invested in those companies" is only possible to united persevering effort and grim resolution.

"For Present Purposes"

Mr. Atkins interpolated. I have no idea what that phrase meant, but it looks like a hint that the Council is only resolute for a little time—is open to a compromise, in short. I hope that was not the President's

meaning. Such a policy is fatal. To insist that individuals shall be fully qualified, and to agree that companies may be half-qualified, is not a logical policy, squares with nothing, and furnishes no sound fighting attitude. It gives away the principle of the Pharmacy Act. Better swallow our indignation, and accept unqualified companies as inevitable, and make the best of their society. If we mean fighting, let us first be convinced that our claims are just, logical, and definite. Then let us brace ourselves for battle, and let Mr. James Bailey, Mr. Batty Langley, Mr. Alexander Cross, and Mr. Gilhooley do their worst and win if they can.

The Privy Council Project

of a third part of the Poison Schedule, which carries in its train the boon of free arsenic for the people, gets a bad blow from the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association. The new Lord President may or may not be in sympathy with the finding of the Departmental Committee which he will have to consider; but his adviser, Mr. Harrison, is too astute to allow him to face the medical music with a "Ballakinrain" Bill, for the present at all events. If any reforming measure has been drafted it will be either torn up or considerably modified after the Association's protest, and in any case it would have no chance in face of such opposition from medical and legal allies as we could be sure of.

The Title "Doctor"

is a constant trouble with the purists of the medical profession. The Committee of the British Medical Association, to which reference has just been made, has once more ruled that no medical man should use the title unless he has a university degree. But it seems hardly worth while struggling against linguistic tendency in this direction. How are the public or patients to address their medical attendants? They cannot say "Better, thank you, medical practitioner," and unless some other simple title can be invented, it is merely pedantry to ignore that "doctor" is the one universally accepted English word for a medical man.

Dr. Blaud's Successor

it appears from the interview of the Paris correspondent of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST with him, is preparing a campaign against chemists in every country who use his firm-title as "deposited at the Tribunal of Commerce." The Trade-mark Convention, I believe, stipulates that registration of a foreign trade-mark must be applied for in other countries within four months of registration in its native land, otherwise it has only the chance that any other unregistered trade title may have. To be sued for using Dr. Blaud's name in connection with his pills would be as surprising as if Dr. Gregory's or Dr. Dover's descendants were suddenly to appear with writs. M. Sciorelli may have some basis of a grievance against the French Academy of Medicine for first making use of his trade-name in the Codex, but his firm can hardly claim to have exercised due diligence in protesting. There are cases in our law-books in which the proprietors of Harvey's sauce, Reading sauce, and Worcester sauce (who says we are a nation with only one sauce?) severally failed to establish their claims because they had not manifested that due diligence. Their titles had become *publici juris*. That was what the Courts said, but in at least one of the cases they agreed that the representatives of the first makers should be protected in the title "the original Harvey's sauce." M. Sciorelli could probably secure a monopoly in the description "the original" Blaud's pills.

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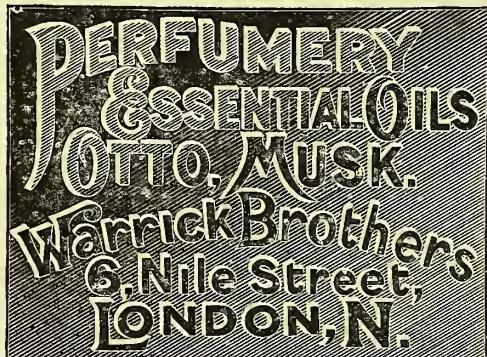
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Editorial Comments.

Our 1904 Diary.

We have now completed the work of editing several thousands of formulas for known, admitted, and approved remedies which subscribers have sent in for publication in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY. It has been a somewhat laborious piece of work, for we have endeavoured to arrange the formulas as systematically as possible, so that none who have sent in formulas will have difficulty in identifying their own. This work has brought out many interesting facts which one could scarcely have anticipated; for example, that blood-mixtures and blood-purifiers differ in composition from each other. One determining object of our classification has been to eliminate duplicates, which the process of sorting revealed. In many instances one formula in the DIARY will stand as the record for dozens which have been received from different chemists in different parts of the country. We have also kept in view the necessity of publishing the formulas for preparations which are now sold under ailment-names, so that our subscribers may have the assurance that when December 31 dawns upon them the sale may continue without interruption by the law. A considerable number of the formulas which we have received are for medicinal preparations which

either have descriptive names (*e.g.*, quinine-and-iron tonic) or titles which are not datable, and others which are not medicines at all. These we shall give room in the DIARY as far as it is available, but at present the formulas for ailment-name preparations which were received up to October 17 appear to demand all the space that will be available in the DIARY. In any case we mean to ensure publication in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" of the whole of the formulas received up to this date. Our DIARY will contain 4,000 formulas, if not more, and it will represent the most complete and varied selection of "known, admitted, and approved remedies" which has ever seen the light of day—"working formulas" every one of them. Although the Board of Inland Revenue have recently declared that it will not be necessary to absolutely identify on the label of a medicine the formula by which it is prepared, we have thought it inadvisable to depart from the scheme which was based upon the decision that they came to on all the facts submitted to the Board by us, especially as we have been advised that absolute identification may yet be insisted upon.

* * * *

We could not find room for the foregoing in our last issue, and since then the DIARY has gone to press. We have devoted half of the literary pages in the DIARY to formulas for ailment-name remedies, yet have been compelled to make room in the last page for the following "note":

The Editor regrets that, in spite of the increased space, he has been compelled to hold over hundreds of formulas for ailment-name remedies which were received too late for classification. Besides, there has been no room for the formulas for miscellaneous medicinal preparations such as quinine-and-iron tonics and household embrocations, which are not datable when sold under the names sent into us, but which qualified chemists may recommend and sell without stamping. The formulas are, however, in type, and will, with the foregoing, be included in the supplementary volume of "Pharmaceutical Formulas." Thus every chemist who has sent in formulas for publication by us will be able to conform to the Board of Inland Revenue's requirements by marking their labels for them "Prepared according to 'Pharmaceutical Formulas.'"

The new volume will also contain the Medicine-stamp Acts in full, with a valuable commentary thereon, an Australian Pharmacopoeia of hospital-formulas, and a large number of valuable formulas for toilet-preparations. It will be a unique and valuable addition to every chemist's library.

It is unnecessary to say more at present regarding the volume except to quote from the preface one sentence: "As the collection is by or for chemists, we have, without hesitation, stuck to the Latin peculiar to the drug-trade."

At this season a good many subscriptions for the *C. & D.* expire. We suggest to those who are in this category that they should renew promptly, because new subscribers are sending in half-sovereigns at a rate which we did not anticipate when orders for DIARY materials were given, and the edition will be exhausted quickly. We have this week received many appreciative letters from old and new subscribers, who regard THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and its work as a general trade advantage as well as a personal help. Such letters are gratifying, and we thankfully acknowledge them.

The Stamps Department.

Mr. H. Fogelstrom Bartlett, I.S.O., has been appointed Controller of Stamps and Registrar of Joint-stock Companies in succession to Mr. E. Cleave, who has retired from the public service.

In consequence of Mr. Bartlett's promotion the Board of Inland Revenue have made the following appointments: Mr. F. Atterbury, to be an Assistant-Secretary of Stamps and Taxes, and Mr. G. W. Mauder, to be Comptroller of Stamps and Taxes in Dublin, in succession to Mr. Atterbury.—*The Times*, November 3, 1903.

We feel that with Mr. Bartlett's well-deserved promotion the drug-trade is losing a good friend, especially at this

juncture, when the Board of Inland Revenue is endeavouring to extract order from the chaos which has resulted in medicine stamp-duty administration consequent upon the two High Court decisions. Mr. Bartlett's name is familiar to all who have had correspondence with Somerset House on the subject, and those who have come in contact with him have recognised his courtesy and friendliness. We believe we speak for the whole trade when we congratulate Mr. Bartlett on his promotion and wish him a continuance of sound health for the performance of the duties of his new office. Mr. Frederick Atterbury, who succeeds him in Somerset House, has been Comptroller of Stamps and Taxes and Assistant-Registrar of Joint-stock Companies in Dublin.

Silence is Golden.

The report of the discussion on the Medicine-stamp Acts by Glasgow chemists (page 766) is lively reading, but those amongst the speakers who are in negotiation with Somerset House in regard to penalties may have reason to regret their public utterances. Inland Revenue proceedings have a knack of moving slowly, and so rarely does it happen that the Board are wrong in instituting them that it is about 999 chances to 1 for the chemist to win. It is therefore always advisable for defendants not to speak in public about any pending proceedings, as what they say may make good evidence against them.

Accuracy Required.

Newspaper comment on the Medicine-stamp Act goes along in its blundering fashion. Thus the *Glasgow Evening News* of Saturday, October 31, says:

The popular pill-box, which may be had on Hogmanay night for one penny, will have increased 150 per cent. in price by the time the chimes have rung out the old and rung in the new year. This is not a freak of the fiscal policy programme; it is rather accounted for by a little retaliation proposed on the part of the Inland Revenue officials, who from January 1 next are to define strictly the present Act. The sequel will probably be a wholesale relabelling of the tiny tins and bottles which are made the receptacles of the weird and wonderful compounds served up for the cure of all the ills that flesh is heir to. For individual qualified chemists, however, a loophole is provided by which the pains and penalties following a contravention may be avoided. This is the publication on the label attached to the respective compounds of the mystic letters "B.P."

It is strange how inexact some people are about this business; as a matter of fact, December 31 is the date on which labels for ailment-name medicines must show what the medicines are made of or where the formulas are published. It is a small slip, perhaps, on a par with mention of the Medicine-stamp Act, when there are really four Acts deserving that name, and a score which bear upon the duty and its enforcement.

Dutiability of Asthma-cures.

We mentioned a fortnight ago that the Board of Inland Revenue had marked as liable the label for an asthma-powder which was to be burned, and we expressed the opinion that this was an error. As confirming that we are indebted to the proprietor of "Blinblow" for the subjoined copy of a letter received from the Board of Inland Revenue this week in reference to the label "Blinblow," which bears the following wording:

Eucalyptus and Stramonium Asthma-cure. A most effectual remedy for asthma, bronchitis, hay-fever, influenza, whooping-cough, &c.

In 1901 the Board stated that the preparation was not liable to duty, and the matter was again submitted to the Board on October 26. The Board's letter in response is as follows:

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that the decision in the case of *Ransom v. Sangineti* does not modify their views in regard to preparations which, like the "asthma-cure" in ques-

tion, are intended to be burnt and the fumes inhaled; but as the label forwarded is applicable to preparations which fall within the charge of duty, it cannot be marked "Not liable to duty."

The letter is signed by Mr. Stoodley, the Secretary. The proprietor of "Blinblow" is henceforth to print on the labels, in red ink, "Not to be taken: only the fumes inhaled," and this will suffice to show Inland Revenue officers that the article is outside the charge of duty.

The Organ of the Labby.

There are a dozen paragraphs in *Truth* this week which are more or less concerned with goods which chemists and druggists handle, but the following two are all we have room for, and we quote these more on account of their dealing with the subject of the day than for their wisdom:

Some little time ago I commented upon the decision of the Board of Inland Revenue to enforce more strictly the Patent-medicine Stamp Acts. In effect the Inland Revenue authorities announced their intention of levying duty upon all compounded articles sold by chemists and druggists which did not appear in the British Pharmacopoeia, or which were not supplied under a doctor's prescription. Naturally, the change of policy created a great deal of perturbation in pharmaceutical circles, for if the intention had been carried out it would have been impossible for a chemist to have sold a pennyworth of liver-pills or cough-lozenges without placing a three-halfpenny stamp upon the package containing them, or incurring a penalty. The absurdity of such a procedure seems to have been impressed upon the authorities, for they are now striving to find loopholes by which the men of medicine may escape payment of the duty.

The latest of these loopholes is contained in an official intimation that the Somerset House authorities "do not now consider that the mention merely of an organ or part of the human body of itself renders a preparation liable to Medicine Stamp-duty." As an example of official ineptitude this is hard to beat. A chemist may now sell a pennyworth of "liver"-pills free of duty, but if he should happen to label them "antibilious" pills he is liable to be pounced upon by the Excise officer. He cannot sell "cough"-mixture without a stamp, but the same preparation labelled "lung"-tonic can be retailed duty free. The laws dealing with the whole matter are in a hopelessly chaotic condition, and pending their alteration the most sensible course for the Board of Inland Revenue to take would be to return to their old procedure, which recognised that a preparation might bear a distinguishing name without necessarily being liable to the duty.

Our contemporary in the first paragraph has got hold of the wrong end of the stick, but why we cannot explain. Nevertheless, it is, we feel, a national benefaction that Mr. Labouchere will not require to pay 2½d. for his penn'orth of liver-pills.

"Dirty Shaves."

Hairdressers, in conference, have discussed what they should do to chemists and doctors who say to their customers that they have had "a dirty shave." The Executive of the Federation of Northern Hairdressers recommended, and a subsequent proposition was placed before the Conference and adopted—viz.:

It has been decided, by taking legal advice, to see in what degree a chemist or a doctor is responsible for damages [to a barber] where it is clearly proved that an action at law is commenced upon their evidence.

It was suggested to embody this in a circular to chemists and others, but wiser counsels prevailed.

Commissions to Clergymen.

Sir Edward Fry has written to the *Times* in regard to the business-methods of Violet's Progressive Chemists (Limited), at Prince's Terrace, Bournemouth, of which Miss Violet Hill is director. This lady's name is not on the register of chemists and druggists. The company make and sell Dr. Auzona's remedy for gout, and reference was made to it last week in a quotation which we printed from the *British Medical Journal*. The owners of it are pushing the sale, and they have taken advantage of the pecuniary suffering existing amongst the clergy (owing to the falling-off in their benefices and other causes) to offer to clergymen an honorarium of 20 per cent. on all bottles of the gout-remedy sold to people who are advised to buy it by the clergymen. The

company say they are making this offer only to one clergyman in each locality, and promise to give the honorarium not only on the sales clergymen may make to persons whose names are sent by them to the company, but on all orders coming from their immediate neighbourhood, either direct or through chemists. Sir Edward Fry is an eminent jurist, and we therefore feel safe in quoting his remarks on this method of pushing business. He says:

Miss Violet E. Hill not only sends her circular to the clergy, but has the courage to seek "episcopal sanction" for her bribery and corruption. How this sanction is to be given without violating that secrecy which she is so anxious to maintain she does not show. I append copies of Miss Hill's letter to the Bishop and the enclosed circular adapted to the clergy.

It would be interesting to know how high Miss Hill aspires in the ecclesiastical hierarchy. Has she sought not only episcopal but also archiepiscopal sanction?

Miss Hill's scheme will be found to be one of very varied benevolence. It will relieve the poverty of the clergy; it will assuage the sufferings of their flocks; it will help to fill the coffers of the limited company to which she has so graciously lent her Christian name. In her effusions fraud and hypocrisy have kissed each other.

Surely, Sir, it is shocking that the clergy should be exposed to such temptations and to such insults as are contained in the circulars of Miss Violet E. Hill.

It is interesting to note that, on investigations made by the *Daily Mail*, the clergy appear to be more tempted by secret commissions than any other class of professional men. Further, that Mr. Bremridge has not been slow to point out, in a letter to the *Times*, that the company criticised by Sir Edward Fry are not chemists registered under the Pharmacy Act, and he makes the exposure the occasion of a little homily which points a moral—support the Pharmacy Bill.

Minor Men.

There is at present an avalanche of criticism of the Minor candidate which threatens to engulf him as solely responsible for the heavy examination failures. It is time we had pause in this matter. The critics of the Minor candidate assume that the examination is above criticism, and they tell us that its purpose is to provide the public with competent pharmacists. As the statutes are quite against them on that point it need not be elaborated here. The main fact is that the Minor examination was purposely much elaborated and extended a few years ago, and almost simultaneously professorial examiners were introduced. Experience has demonstrated that the innovation is a failure. Chemists and botanists who have had no training in pharmacy cannot know the requirements for chemists and druggists. Professorial examiners were adopted by the Pharmaceutical Council on the principle that the University of London has just adopted following the precedent of other Universities. Properly applied, it means that in the Minor and Major Professor Greenish, Mr. Wells Professor Palmer Wynne, Mr. Cowley, Mr. Grier, Mr. Watson-Will, Mr. Duncan, and other well-known teachers would examine their own students, other members of the Boards looking on, taking part, and judging the results with their professorial colleagues. The combination works exceedingly well where it is carried out, but it is not at Galen Place or York Place. Meanwhile the screw has turned round and round, until the Minor examination has come to be regarded as one of the "trickiest" in the country: it is so crammed with detail that it has become far more onerous than the Major examination was a dozen years ago, while the Minor men have six subjects in place of the four the Majors then had. The need for dividing the examination has long been manifest; but the members of Council appear not to realise this, and accept with equanimity the explanation that heavy failures are due to the quality of candidates having deteriorated of recent years. That has first to be squared with the increased stringency of the examination.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

THE session opened auspiciously on Monday evening with the Chemical Industry Club's dinner at the Hotel Previ-talli, Rupert Street, W., when the dining-room was more than filled, and the surplus had to dine in the public room. Amongst those present supporting Mr. Walter F. Reid (the Chairman) were Sir William Ramsay, Mr. David Howard, Mr. Thomas Tyer, Mr. G. B. Francis, Mr. F. Boehm, Dr. F. B. Power, Mr. J. F. Fuerst, Mr. F. C. J. Bird, and Mr. W. Watson-Will. The members, at the request of the CHAIRMAN, drank the health of the President (Sir William Ramsay) and of Mr. Taylor (an American member of the Society who was present). Both gentlemen acknowledged the compliment by bowing their thanks.

Afterwards, at eight o'clock, the Chemical Society's room at Burlington House was quite full, Mr. Reid again presiding, and being supported by Sir William Ramsay. After the minutes had been read by Mr. LING, the CHAIRMAN referred to the presence of the President, who spoke briefly in reply. Then the CHAIRMAN intimated that Mr. Ling had been obliged, owing to his professional engagements, to resign.

THE SECRETARSHIP OF THE SECTION,

and Mr. Julian L. Baker had been appointed to succeed him in the office. Mr. Ling is to initiate his old colleague (Mr. Baker) into the work, and he was cordially thanked for his services to the Society. The practical work of the evening was chiefly concerned with the production of matches, or, as the Chairman afterwards put it, it was a "phosphorus evening." But first Dr. W. R. HODGKINSON, of the Woolwich Government laboratories, made a communication on behalf of Mr. C. Napier Hake, Chief Inspector of Explosives, Melbourne, Australia, on

SAFETY-FUSES.

These fuses consist of a core of gunpowder inside a tube made of jute, and there is a great deal of trouble with them owing to the core separating at parts so that the fuse does not work properly. Mr. Hake, by means of the *x*-rays, determined whether the fuse is continuous or not, and a few photographs were thrown on the screen which demonstrated the utility of the *x*-rays for this purpose. Dr. Hodgkinson added on his own behalf that he had tried to make safety-fuses of cordite, but with indifferent success, as it does not burn steadily and is apt to flicker away, which fact was demonstrated to the meeting. The CHAIRMAN added a word of commendation on the importance of Mr. Hake's observations. Next the

MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES

became the topic of the evening. Mr. MUIR, on his own behalf, described experiments he made five or six years ago with a new preparation of phosphorus, scarlet in colour, which he found to make good matches without the disadvantages that white phosphorus has to the workers. He found that his preparation was a scarlet sulphide of phosphorus, but he could not get it free from yellow sulphide. He spoke about the matter to Mr. Boor, who thought it would be a good thing for match-making, and he got into communication with Dr. Schulz, the net result being the production by the combined work of "one Englishman, one Scotchman, and two Germans" of a new chemically active and physiologically inactive variety of red phosphorus. This was the subject of the second paper, by Drs. Marquart and Schulz, read by Mr. Muir. The scarlet phosphorus is made by dissolving ordinary phosphorus in phosphorus tribromide and heating the 10-per-cent. solution to the boiling-point for several hours. The scarlet variety is formed as a fine powder. This is not pure phosphorus, as it is mixed with phosphorus tribromide. It can be purified so that it contains 90 per cent. of phosphorus, the rest being oxygen and water. Heated it becomes black, and turns red again on cooling. It stands midway between ordinary phosphorus and amorphous phosphorus; it forms new compounds, and is physiologically active. It makes a good match-striking composition, and samples of the matches were passed round the room.

Sir WILLIAM RAMSAY, in the course of the discussion, said he had recently been in Marburg, and Dr. Hans Meyer, of the professorial staff there, had shown him a cat which had swallowed 50 grams of the scarlet phosphorus, and it had done it no harm. Sir William was not quite sure that the new substance is pure phosphorus, and suggested that it may be a hydride. He also questioned if the method of producing it would be commercially economical, as there is considerable loss of phosphorus tribromide in making it. Mr. BOOR, replying to the latter remark, stated that Dr. Marquart uses the liquors continuously. He (the speaker) and Mr. Muir had produced a 20-per-cent. gelatin base for the match-heads, which is recognised as a composition for a match that will stand any climate, and the matches will strike anywhere. The cost of the matches is not more than $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gross higher than those made with ordinary phosphorus, and the advantages to the workers are immense. Scarlet phosphorus costs about 2s. 3d. per lb., and in large quantities it can be produced at the price of amorphous phosphorus. Various questions were asked by Mr. BALE and others, and the discussion threatened to become almost comical, owing to the obvious rivalry between Mr. Bale and Mr. Muir, but Dr. DIVERS helped to bring the meeting back to sanity when he stated that this red phosphorus had been known for a long time, but Dr. Schultz was the first to make it stable. Speaking of its poisonous qualities, he suggested that it should be given to herbivorous animals, as alkaline fluids may have a different effect upon the phosphorus than the acid gastric fluids. Sir WILLIAM RAMSAY, replying to this, said the phosphorus had been treated with strong alkali without being attacked. Mr. MUIR, replying to Mr. Bales, said the igniting-point of the phosphorus is somewhere between 130° and 170° C.

Mr. BALE then read his paper on "A New Compound of Phosphorus for the Production of Matches." He began somewhat sarcastically by saying that the Belgian Government had during the past five years offered a prize of 2,000/- for a strike anywhere match which would not have the disadvantages of the ordinary phosphorus, and the prize has not yet been awarded. Mr. Bale thought he would find in hydrocarbon phosphides an igniting-material superior to phosphorus, intrinsically and hygienically, and he described how, by heating equal parts of naphthaline and phosphorus together in water, he obtained a compound to which he assigned the formula $P_4C_{10}H_8$. This affords a good match, and the products of combustion are not so disagreeable as those of phosphorus; in fact, Mr. Bale claimed that the hydrocarbon neutralises the acridity of the phosphorus vapours.

There was a good deal of discussion on this paper, Mr. MUIR, Dr. MESSEL, Mr. WATSON SMITH, Dr. HODGKINSON, Mr. LING, Sir WILLIAM RAMSAY, Dr. DIVERS, Dr. THORNE, Mr. Boor and others taking part in it, and the burden of their remarks was sceptical as to Mr. Bale's substance being a true chemical compound. A great deal of amusement was created by the expert manner in which the Chairman succeeded in preventing Mr. Bale answering each question as it arose instead of at the end of the discussion.

Professor V. H. VELEY, F.R.S., then read, on behalf of Mr. J. J. Manley and himself, a paper on the "Density of Nitric Acid at Different Temperatures."

YORKSHIRE SECTION.

THE inaugural meeting of the session was held at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds, on Monday, November 2, Mr. Jas. E. Bedford in the chair. Three papers were read, all relating to

RADIUM.

Mr. F. W. BRANSOM, F.I.C., discoursed on "Some Properties of Radium Salts," and conducted some experiments in illustration of his points. He showed on a screen some of the phenomena of radial activity, affording pharmacists and others a means of measuring the comparative strength of different samples of radium salts by observing the speed of the fall of the electroscope on the screen. He also illustrated the method of measuring the heat rays given out by radium compounds, the omission of the positive *alpha* rays, the negative *beta* rays, and the exceedingly penetrative neutral *gamma* rays, the ionisation of gases by these rays, and so forth. The spectra of radium and helium were shown, and Mr. Bransom

alluded to the chemical action of these rays, and the methods of concentrating commercial mixtures of radium and other salts. He made reference to the analogy between the cathode rays of the Crookes tube, and the *beta* rays of radium, and the Röntgen rays and the *gamma* rays given out by radium.

Mr. W. ACKROYD, dealing with "The Colour Changes effected by Radium Rays," showed the analogy between the effects produced by radium compounds and those produced by heat. Radium rays, he holds, when they act on substances like common salt, produce effects which are directly comparable to those produced by heat on other substances, but there is one class of changes, where white substances are turned to violet, entirely different from the changes produced by heat. In producing these changes marked differences exist in radium compounds. The comparatively new radium compounds are very weak, and the radium compounds of some age are very much more effective. This he regards as one of the proofs that the energy exhibited by radium compounds comes from without and not from within, as maintained by many scientific men at the present day.

Mr. T. FAIRLEY, dealing with "Certain Reactions of Radium Salts," demonstrated the influence of radium rays in producing a mist or cloud from otherwise invisible vapour, an effect in which the radium rays resemble the Röntgen and also an ordinary electric charge. He gave an account also of the process by which Madame Curie extracted radium from the uranium ore found in Bohemia, and showed how the chemical properties of radium are so similar to those of other elements of the same group that it is almost impossible to predicate many of them by analogy to that of other known methods.

A discussion followed, and the thanks of the meeting were expressed to the authors.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

"Tabloid" Trade-mark.—The case of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. v. Thompson, Capper & Co. in regard to infringement of the "tabloid" trade-mark is expected to come on in the High Court on Monday, November 9. Witnesses have been asked to attend that day, but the preliminary statement of the case may occupy the Court all day, and, in any case, it will last several days.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

THE BALLIKINRAIN ANT-DESTROYER CASE.

In the Court of Session on Tuesday, November 3, counsel for appellants asked the Judges of the First Division for leave to withdraw the stated case which had been lodged in court against the decision given in the Glasgow Sheriff Court against Alex. Cross & Sons (Limited), Glasgow, who were convicted of a contravention of the Pharmacy Acts by selling a bottle of Ballikinrain ant-destroyer, of which arsenic in quantity formed an ingredient, and were fined 5*l.* with 3*l.* of expenses. The case stated by the appellants for the opinion of the Court was reported in the *C. & D.*, but it was intimated to their Lordships that Messrs. Cross had resolved not to proceed further in the matter. He, therefore, moved the Judges to dismiss the case, and said he was ready to pay the respondent, the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society, two guineas of expenses. Mr. T. B. Morison, respondent's counsel, held that three guineas was the proper sum, and their Lordships granted the motion with three guineas expenses.

High Court Cases.

A CLINICAL-THERMOMETER PATENT.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Friday, October 30, before Mr. Justice Joyce, Mr. Gordon mentioned a motion in *Hicks v. Simmons*. The learned counsel said that the plaintiff was the owner of a patent for clinical thermometers, and he sought an interim injunction to restrain the defendant from committing what was alleged

to be an infringement of the patent. Mr. Lever, for the defendant, gave the ordinary undertaking to keep an account, and it was arranged that there should be no order on the motion, except that the costs should be costs in the cause. Mr. Justice Joyce sanctioned the arrangement, and gave liberty to apply to advance the trial.

THE RAMSGATE WARRANTY CASE.

THE action of Scobell v. Gadd in regard to an alleged breach of warranty in connection with a dispensing-business at Ramsgate (reported in the Supplement of our last issue) was further heard on Friday, October 30, by Mr. Justice Kennedy and a special jury in the King's Bench Division of the High Court. The examination of the plaintiff was continued.

Mr. Scobell, in reply to Mr. Hills, said when he signed the agreement between him and the defendant on May 23, he firmly believed that the accounts given him on the 11th were properly made up; and it was on reliance of that that he signed the agreement. The business was started on May 26, and throughout the time he had it the books and accounts were regularly kept. In the first three months' trading he found, from the books, that the takings were only 128*l.* On December 15, after six months' trading, the gross takings were 253*l.* For thirteen months the gross takings were 493*l.* The witness was taken through a series of deductions under the contract and the actual expenses which were incurred in the business. He sold the business on June 24, 1903, for 100*l.* cash down and 250*l.* more, payable by instalments covering a period of three years. The value of the stock was 307*l.* 10*s.* He was losing 2*l.* or 3*l.* a week, and it was a case of putting up the shutters or taking the best price he could get. The value of the fittings was over 190*l.*

Cross-examined by Mr. Banks, K.C., the advertisement in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Supplement stated that the returns of the business were 900*l.* That would be the average yearly gross takings of three years. In the agreement he signed he had undertaken to pay for the stock and fittings at a valuation. His son told him that there was a lot of old stock, and that it would come to over 400*l.* He told Mr. Gadd that he did not care about spending more than 600*l.* He had every reason to believe that his son conducted the business in a proper way. Mr. Gadd did a larger cash business than his son did. When his son was in the business the credit was larger than the cash, whereas when Mr. Gadd was there the cash was larger than the credit.

That might be accounted for if someone had omitted to enter up the cash receipts during the time your son was there?—Of course.

Mr. George Lewis, accountant, in reply to Mr. Shearman, K.C., said the books of this chemist's business had been placed in his hands, and for the three years ending August 31, 1902, he found that the cash receipts were 1,472*l.*, and the ledger receipts 1,182*l.* To get the actual gross receipts they took the credit sales from the day-books, and the credit sales during that period were 1,095*l.*, which with 1,472*l.* gave the total receipts as 2,568*l.* The basis of calculating the profits for a particular year was the earnings of that year.

Mr. Alfred Manners, of Messrs. Judd & Manners, chemist valuers and transfer agents, gave it as his opinion that a fair percentage to allow for bad debts in this business was $\frac{7}{12}$ per cent.

Mr. W. S. Fish, transfer agent, said the utmost gross profits that could be earned in this particular business, and taking the turnover at 900*l.*, were 40 per cent, or 360*l.* From that he would deduct rent, rates, and taxes, and service of assistant to arrive at the net profits.

For the defence, Dr. Stylian, medical officer of health, Ramsgate, said he had been in practice in Ramsgate for over seventeen years, and had dealt with Mr. Gadd. He looked on him as a very good chemist occupying a leading position in Ramsgate, and thoroughly trusted by himself and his patients. He appeared to be doing a flourishing business. There was a very marked contrast when Mr. Scobell came. Mr. Scobell struck him as not having experience in chemists' work. It was very obvious that in a very short time he neglected his business, and he (witness) began to get numerous complaints from his patients about his incivility.

He had great fears it would affect his practice, and he decided to leave him. Cross-examined, his prescriptions with Mr. Gadd averaged 100*l.* a year.

When the case was resumed on Monday, November 2, Mr. Gadd, the defendant, in answer to Mr. Norman Craig, said he started business in Ramsgate in 1878, and he continuously carried it on till May 1902. He had no other sources of income than the profits of that business, and he had been able to lay aside between 2,000*l.* and 3,000*l.* out of the profits of the business. His reason for desiring to sell the business was that the place did not suit his wife's health. Witness detailed the expenses he paid out of his net profits, these expenses amounting to 305*l.*, and yet he was able to put by money. With regard to prescriptions it would be untrue to suggest that "repeats" would only be about the same number as new prescriptions. The former would be at least four times as much.

It has been suggested that your profit on doctors' dispensing was infinitesimally small?—I estimated about 50 per cent. profit.

That is not relying on labour, but simply cost of material?—Yes.

And larger in the case of the public?—Yes.

Cross-examined: On an average he charged the doctor for his prescriptions about 6*l.* a bottle of 6 oz. Mrs. Gadd has money of her own. The business was stationary when he sold it, although it had been slightly dropping for seven years, and ten years before he sold it the gross takings were over 1,200*l.* per annum. Then he did a certain wholesale trade with doctors. When he wrote to Messrs. Orridge about the sale of his business, stating that it was still progressing, he meant to infer that he had no wholesale dealings with the doctors, and that it was progressing in profitable business. Mr. Scobell, jun., gave splendid trade references.

Re-examined: He received many complaints from his customers about Mr. Scobell. With regard to profits, the witness informed his Lordship that on a 6*l.* price he would make 3*l.* profit.

Mr. Bankes, K.C.: There is no free-trade in chemists' business, else we might start on our own account. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. W. Brown, assistant to Mr. Hawkins, trading as Messrs. Orridge, asked as to the recognised meaning of the word "profit," said they deducted the amount of the goods purchased from the gross receipts, which would give them the gross profits; they deducted from that the working-expenses, which included two-thirds rent, rates, and taxes, and they got the net profits.

Cross-examined: If a chemist had a large stock at the end of 1902, and in 1903, having bought nothing, sold off all he had, would you then say that he had made 300*l.* profit?—It would be impossible to carry on business in that way; he must keep on replacing his stock.

Counsel having addressed the jury, his Lordship summed up, pointing out that this was not a question of fraud or misrepresentation, but that if the jury found that the statement in the bargain about the three years' takings was incorrect, they must say what damages they would award the plaintiff.

Having retired to consider their verdict, the jury found for the defendant.

CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY v. KODAK (LIMITED).

IN the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, on November 5, before Mr. Justice Grantham and a special jury, this case came on for hearing. It was an action brought to recover 250*l.*, the balance of rent due for a stall at the Crystal Palace during the American Exhibition last year. The defendants admitted the claim, and in a counter-claim said they were induced to enter into the contract by the fraudulent representations of the Crystal Palace Company in a letter of January 6, 1902, and also in a programme dated October, 1901; alternatively they claimed that there was a breach of warranty. Mr. Duke, K.C., and Mr. D. M. Kerby appeared for the Kodak Company, and Mr. McCall, K.C., and Mr. Arthur Colefax represented the Crystal Palace. During the examination of witnesses counsel on each side had a long consultation, at the conclusion of which Mr. McCall said he did not think that the jury would be troubled with the case. There was no harm in him saying that the case involved questions of very considerable difficulty, not merely with regard to the actual contracts, but with regard

to other contracts. In regard to one matter—the unfortunate misrepresentation of Mr. Post, who had been the American agent of the Crystal Palace Company, and who had named those who it was supposed would exhibit—his clients were responsible, and therefore they would pay to the defendants a sum of money in settlement of their claim in this action. It was to be understood that the claim was one of contract, the charges of fraud and misrepresentation being withdrawn. His Lordship said he thought this was a very wise course to take, and the action came to an end.

HALL v. BRUCES (LIMITED).

BEFORE Mr. Justice Phillimore and a common jury, in the High Court, on November 5, the second trial of this action for damages for injuries alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the defendants came on for hearing. Mr. E. Tyndall Atkinson, K.C., was the leading counsel for the plaintiff, and Mr. Rawlinson, K.C., for the defendant. The case just finished as we close for press, and we therefore reserve the full report; but we may state generally that the plaintiff alleged that his wife sent to Brunes (Limited), chemists, 28 Broadway, Ealing, for some ipecacuanha-wine to give to his infant son, and eucalyptus oil was supplied and given to the child before it was discovered that the old label for eucalyptus oil on the bottle had not been replaced by another. At the previous trial there was a conflict of medical evidence as to the child's sufferings being due to eucalyptus oil, and the jury were unable to agree. This week's hearing was opened by Mr. Atkinson narrating the facts from his client's point of view, and evidence (professional and other) was given on both sides. In the result the jury found a verdict of 25*l.* for the father and 75*l.* for the son, the latter to be invested for the boy's benefit. His Lordship, in entering judgment accordingly, said he would see that the investment was made as suggested by the jury.

County Court Cases.

"PARTNER, HUSBAND, OR TRAVELLER."

AT Bloomsbury County Court on Tuesday, November 3, the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W., sought the committal of Mr. M. A. Kennedy, chemist, 159 Kingsland Road, N., on a judgment summons. It was stated that the debt was contracted when the debtor was in business in Houndsditch, and that he is now carrying on business in Kingsland Road as "L. Bishop & Co."

Judge Bacon: Are you aware a letter had been sent to the court by the proprietor of the business saying Kennedy is only a traveller at a salary of 8*s.* a week, with a commission which hardly makes his money up to 25*s.* a week?

Plaintiffs' Representative: We cannot get at the bottom of this business, although we make every inquiry.

Judge Bacon (reading the affidavit made in the case): "I am informed and believe through my inquiries that M. A. Kennedy, of 159 Kingsland Road, is the sole member of the firm." What nonsense! That is not evidence on which I could send a man to Wormwood Scrubbs. Whoever has signed this? I cannot even read the name.

Plaintiffs' Solicitor: The name is Lees, your Honour; he is my clerk.

Judge Bacon: Once the difference between people who could write and who could not was that they were called "clerks." It would seem that is no longer the case. The letter—ostensibly from the employer—is signed "L. Bishop."

Witness: "L." stands for "Louisa Bishop," sir; we say it is his wife.

His Honour declined to commit on the evidence produced, but made a new order for the payment of 10*s.* a month.

SPECTACLES ON SALE OR RETURN.

AT the Bloomsbury County Court on Thursday, October 22, before Judge Bacon, Messrs. Bruce, Green & Co., opticians, 53 Berners Street, Oxford Street, W., sued Messrs. Knight & Co., chemists, 20 Wheelergate, Nottingham, for 5*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* The claim was for 4*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* optical goods supplied between January 12 and July 15, 1903, and 12*s.* costs. Defendants gave notice of defence, accompanied by a letter to the Registrar, in which they stated that they owed 12*s.* 9*d.* only,

and out of this they claimed 9*l.* carriage of goods returned to London. They, however, paid 12*l.* 9*l.* into court on September 4, and 3*s.* proportionate court fees on that amount. The first item of the account was 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* on January 12 "On sale or return within six months." The time-limit had been exceeded when the goods were returned; and in giving judgment for the plaintiffs Judge Bacon expressed surprise at the way in which Bruce, Green & Co. behaved to their customers.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re SAMUEL HURMAN LONGMAN, Fforchaman Road, Cwmaman, Aberdare, Chemist and Druggist.

THE Official Receiver has issued to creditors a summary of this debtor's statement of affairs, together with his report on the case, in which the deficiency is returned at 148*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* Debtor says he took the premises in March last, but was not able to start business till May, owing to the delay by the contractor in the alteration of the premises, and to the difficulty in getting the previous tenant to quit. His loss in connection with this he estimates at 20*l.* The debtor about three years ago carried on business as a chemist at Highbridge, near Bridgewater. He ceased trading there when he made a deed of assignment. His liabilities then were 600*l.* or 700*l.*, and he believes 4*s.* in the pound was paid. Since leaving Highbridge he has been engaged as a chemist's assistant. In March, when he took over the premises at Fforchaman Road he had 150*l.* He kept books of accounts. Two of the creditors obtained judgment, and one caused an execution to be levied for the sum of 38*l.* on October 8. The Sheriff's officers remained in possession until they were notified of the making of the receiving-order, when they withdrew. The following are the unsecured creditors for 10*l.* and upwards:

	£ s. d.
London & Provincial Bank, Aberdare	38 16 6
Oldfield, Patterson & Co., Manchester	13 2 11
Tomlinson & Son, Birmingham	19 4 6
Todd, J. H., Aberdare	18 0 0
Williams, John, Cwmaman	26 10 0

Re ABRAHAM COHEN, Bombay Street, Southwark Park Road, S.E., Managing Director of the Scotch Soda-manufacturing Company (Limited).—This debtor applied for his discharge at the London Bankruptcy Court on November 3. Mr C. A. Pope, Assistant-Receiver, reported that the debtor was sentenced on October 26 to four months' imprisonment in the second-class division for transferring property with intent to defraud his creditors. The Registrar accordingly adjourned the hearing until March 2, 1904.

Deed of Arrangement.

Johnston, Anthony V., 90 Albert Bridge Road, Belfast, druggist. Arrangement for the payment of a composition of 5*s.* in the pound, by equal instalments at four, eight, and twelve months respectively from the date of the confirmation of the offer by the Court, all said instalments to be secured by the promissory notes of petitioner and a surety. Date of filing petition, September 18; date of confirmation-order, October 26; filed, October 28.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Armstrong, J., and Scott, W., under the style of Armstrong & Scott, Penrith, veterinary surgeons.

Mayou, J., and Thornley, J. H., under the style of Mayou & Co., Birmingham, chemists and druggists.

Pinchen, T. J., and Williams, G. R., under the style of Pinchen & Williams, East Rudham, Norfolk, mineral-water manufacturers.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Eyton-Jones, John Arthur, Wrexham, surgeon.

Stibbs, Edward William, Cheltenham, horse-doctor.

THERE is a growing suspicion among the Excise authorities in India that cocaine is to a certain extent displacing opium in Calcutta.

New Companies & Company News.

HENRY BRADLAW, SURGEON DENTIST (LIMITED).—Registered in Dublin. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers and fitters of artificial teeth. The first subscribers are: W. R. Alexander, 18 New Street, Birmingham, surgeon dentist; P. B. Phillips, 38 Sandygate Road, Folkestone, surgeon dentist; R. Collier, 59 Shaw Street, Liverpool, surgeon dentist; H. J. Bradlaw, 4 Harrington Street, Dublin, surgeon dentist; J. J. Blakeley, 107 Manchester Road, Bolton, surgeon dentist; T. G. Joseph, 51 Grafton Street, Dublin, surgeon dentist; and F. C. Chandler, 2 Carlisle Terrace, Belfast, surgeon dentist. Registered office, 78 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

EVERITT, GINZLER & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with A. W. Everitt for the acquisition of the business carried on by him at 34A Northampton Street, Essex Road, London, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in plain and fancy metallic boxes, drug-boxes of every description, fancy wood-pulp and wooden barrel packages, metallic specialities, decorated plates and the like, varnishes, crystallisers, printers, lithographers, engravers, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are B. A. Everitt, A. W. Everitt, G. P. Everitt (managing director), H. D. Eborough, and W. A. Hickson. Qualification, 100*l.* Registered office, 34A Northampton Street, Essex Road, London.

OXIDIZED OXYGEN COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the patents comprised in an agreement between W. T. Mercier and S. T. Mercier of the first part, Henry Leetham & Sons (Limited) and S. Leetham of the second part, and Henry Simon (Limited) and J. Ingleby of the third part, and to carry on the business of suppliers of plant and apparatus used in connection with the said patents or having reference to the bleaching and sterilising of flour or any other products of wheat or grain and foodstuffs generally. No initial public issue. The first directors are W. T. Mercier (nominated by W. and S. Mercier), S. Leetham (nominated by Henry Leetham & Sons, Limited), and J. Ingleby (nominated by Henry Simon, Limited).

OVERTON, CASH CHEMISTS (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by E. C. Overton at Mundesley, Norfolk, as the "Overton-Fisher Company," and at Market Place, North Walsham, Norfolk, as "Edmund Clark Overton," and to carry on the same and the business of patent-medicine vendors, herbalists, tobacconists, drapers, sundriesmen, mineral-water manufacturers, &c. The first subscribers are: E. C. Overton, Egremont, Kirkley, Lowestoft, traveller; Mrs F. G. Overton, Egremont, Kirkley, Lowestoft; H. Sayer, 40 London Road, Lowestoft, C.A.; Mrs. M. E. Sayer, The Pines, London Road South, Lowestoft; S. Sayer, Vernon Road, Marina, Lowestoft, herring-merchant; Mrs. S. T. E. Pryor, Wicklewood, Wymondham; and W. R. Pryor, Wicklewood, Wymondham, schoolmaster. No initial public issue. E. C. Overton is the first director. Qualification, 60*l.*; remuneration (if any), as fixed by the company. Registered Office, Egremont, London Road South, Lowestoft.

ESSENCES (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers, distillers, and importers of and dealers in essential oils, essences, colours, and chemicals of all kinds, chemists, druggists, dentists, opticians, dealers in photographic materials and scientific, surgical, and optical instruments, &c., and to acquire the business carried on at Chesterfield House, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C., as "The Essentia Company." The first subscribers are: P. N. Doumin, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C., traveller; R. Doumin, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C., essential oil dealer; J. F. Child, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C., chemist; G. S. Saunders, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C., clerk; A. J. Hessenauer, 24 Woodside Road, Wood Green, N., clerk; W. D. Garrett, 8 Newstead Road, Lee, Kent, clerk; and G. B. Wickes, 7 Union Court, Broad Street, E.C., solicitor. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. F. Child and R. Doumin (managing directors); other directors (if any) to be appointed by the subscribers. Remuneration, 20*l.* each per annum (managing directors an extra 150*l.* each per annum and a share in the profits). Registered office, Chesterfield House, 98 Great Tower Street, E.C.

BRUNNER, MOND & Co. (LIMITED).—An interim dividend of 30 per cent., free of income-tax, has been declared on the ordinary shares.

INTERNATIONAL SPONGE-IMPORTERS (LIMITED).—Letters of allotment and regret for the issue of 125,000 six per cent. cumulative preference shares of 1*l.* each in this company were posted last week.

BORAX CONSOLIDATED (LIMITED).—The directors announce than an interim dividend of 5*s.* per share, less

income-tax, in respect of the quarter ended June 30 last, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, will be paid on the ordinary shares on and after November 2.

INTERNATIONAL PLASMON (LIMITED).—Sir E. Montague Nelson, K.C.M.G., presided at the annual meeting of the shareholders of this company at Cannon Street Hotel on Thursday, October 29. In the course of his speech, moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, to which reference has already been made in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, the chairman spoke of the satisfactory progress made by the company, and stated that a new edition of the "Plasmon Cookery Book" is in the press, which contains many new recipes that demonstrate the utility of the food for healthy people as well as those that are suffering from impaired digestion. The report and balance-sheet were unanimously adopted, and various votes of thanks were recorded, including a most hearty one to Mr. S. Melville Bergheim, the managing director.

Paris Society of Pharmacy.

THE November meeting was a well-attended and busy function. The "bureau" was fully represented, M. Léger (who presided as usual) being supported on his right by M. Bourquelot (General Secretary), and on his left by the Vice-President, M. Latratin, and the Treasurer, M. Vaudin. Many other well-known faces might be noticed, men who seldom miss a meeting—for instance, M. Marty and Dr. Viron. THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST had "les honneurs de la séance." One member (evidently an English scholar) became so completely immersed in the "compte rendu du Centenaire" that he was oblivious to all around, and had to be tapped on the shoulder by the attendant to call his attention to the necessity of signing the presence-sheet, after which he resumed his reading like a giant refreshed. The correspondence included letters from Professor Henri Moissan and Professor Villiers-Moriame resigning membership of the Society. With regard to the former, M. Léger remarked that it was the custom of the Society when such a communication was received to approach the member with a view to inducing him to reconsider his decision, and this would be done. M. Moissan's case, on the contrary, seemed to present some peculiar points. The distinguished professor of chemistry at the Sorbonne, whose world-wide reputation renders him one of the ornaments of the Society, alleged that he only received an invitation to the Centenary at a time when it was too late to enable him to be present, and that his resignation was motived by this fact. M. Léger and M. Bourquelot stated they were quite at a loss to understand this. They had called personally at M. Moissan's and left formal invitations, both for the meeting and the banquet. They were informed that M. Moissan was out, or they would have added a verbal invitation. How it happened that their message was only put into M. Moissan's hands at an unduly late period they could not imagine.

M. Bougault then read a paper on "Kermes." Standing at the blackboard which is placed in the corner of the hall, he delivered his observations with much detail and emphasis. Kermes was, he said, a favourite subject of study, having attracted the attention of Robiquet, Soubeiran, Gay-Lussac, and many others. The first-named stated that it contains antimonious oxide. He (M. Bougault) held that Robiquet's proof of the presence of this oxide was quite insufficient. He also liberally criticised the works of more modern writers on the subject, and insisted on the presence of a large amount of pyro-antimoniate of soda. In two samples of kermes bought in the ordinary way, he had found as much as 25 per cent. and 35 per cent. of this substance, which is not even mentioned as a constituent of kermes in ordinary works of reference. Other samples, prepared by himself, gave 12 per cent. and 17 per cent.

Some notes on sparteine were read by M. Charles Moureu, one of the younger professors of the School of Pharmacy, and a constant attendant and active member of the Society. In collaboration with M. Valeur, he has made numerous experiments with a view to elucidate the chemical constitution of this body, and alluded to the researches of M. Léger on the same subject.

M. Denis-Honoré Carette (who took the Society's gold medal in his student days) then read his "maiden" paper before the Society on oils of rue and methylonylcetone.

Finally M. Patein, pharmacist-in-chief of the Lariboisière Hospital, contributed a note on a precipitative reaction of cryogenine.

A COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE has been established at Amsterdam for the purpose of promoting the foreign interests of Dutch commerce, by giving information of a practical nature to the public. The office will have the co-operation of the Colonial Museum at Haarlem, including the laboratory attached to that institution.

Deaths.

PRICE.—At 16 Clifford Road, Blackpool, on October 30, Mr. Joseph Price, chemist and druggist, 225 Great Cheetham Street, Higher Broughton, Manchester, aged thirty-five.

SMITH.—At Cheltenham, on October 31, Mr. Nathaniel Smith, pharmaceutical chemist, in his ninetieth year. Mr. Smith was one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and had been in business in Cheltenham for sixty-four years, and was actively engaged in it up to a few days before his death. Mr. Smith was an exceedingly modest man, and was reluctant to talk for publication. One of our staff paid him a visit two years ago, when he promised to write his impressions of the progress of pharmacy during his lifetime, for publication in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, but he never quite felt that he was an old man, and thought there was good time to do it "some day." After his apprenticeship to the drug-trade, Mr. Smith became an assistant with Mr. Samuel Forfect Gray at 97 New Bond Street, W., with whom he remained for eighteen months. Gray was the son of the author of Gray's "Supplement," and his business, Mr. Smith once told us, was that of a high-class pharmacy combined with a steam laboratory, in which there were three evaporatory steam-pans, two large stills worked by steam coils, two hydraulic presses, a mill for grinding bitter almonds, from which the oil was obtained and the cake used for essential oils. After this Mr. Smith was with Messrs. Lea & Perrins in their Cheltenham branch as an assistant, and in 1837 was taken into partnership, ultimately buying the business. In 1886 he took Mr. M. C. Mansbridge into partnership, as Messrs. Lea & Perrins had done with himself. Although Mr. Smith was not present at the famous Crown and Anchor meeting at which the Pharmaceutical Society was founded, he was one of the first to subscribe to the Society's objects, and thus became a founder. Mr. Smith was the originator of lin. potassii iodidi c. sapone, and never made any secret about its composition; in fact, he communicated a note on it to the Pharmaceutical Society many years ago, and if that had been followed the early pharmacopoeial blunders with the preparation would never have occurred. A thorough pharmacist he was, taking that delight in making things which comes from accurate knowledge and appreciation of art. Thus up to quite recent years he himself made batches of extracts of nux vomica and colocynth, concentrated infusions, confections, lozenges, tinctures, and so on. Although a quiet man, he was a most interesting companion, and was very highly respected in Cheltenham. He was for twenty years a member of the now defunct Leckhampton Local Board, and for a quarter of a century churchwarden of Leckhampton Church. The funeral on Wednesday was attended by (amongst others) Messrs. Barron, Clarke, Saxby, Mansbridge, Hill, Stewart, Palence, Chambers, and Pattison.

SUMNERS.—At Heckington, Lincolnshire, last week, Mr. Michael Cole Sumners, pharmaceutical chemist, who was well known throughout the district, and had for many years been churchwarden.

Recent Wills.

BELL.—The will of the late Mr. Henry Bell, of 65 Park Grove, Hull, formerly of Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died on March 24, has been proved at the York Registry Office by Mrs. Fanny Bell, widow. The gross estate is valued at 5,477*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

GREEN.—The will of the late Mr. John Green, chemist and druggist, of Deal, has been proved at 7,488*l.* gross.

HARTLEY.—The value of the estate of the late Mr. William Hartley, chemical-manufacturer, of Crow Nest, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, has been proved at 4,145*l.*

PAIGE.—Mr. John Gillard Paige, of Southmolton, chemist and druggist, who died on July 27, appointed as sole executrix of his will his wife, Mrs. Jane Paige, by whom his estate has been valued at 777*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* gross, and the net personalty at 128*l.* 1*s.*



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Ailment-name Literature.

(*Further postponement of I.R. incidence suggested.*)

SIR,—Our Association has been successful in obtaining from the Board of Inland Revenue the recognition of "organ" names, a boon which is likely to be of immense value to chemists in all parts of the country. We are also presenting a memorial asking for the time the new reading of the Act comes into force to be extended beyond December 31. This is a matter which affects all wholesalers and retailers for the following reasons :

1. The time of grace has been largely taken up in negotiations and inquiries, and the consequent uncertainty has prevented new arrangements being made.

2. Many firms' goods are in second, and even third, hands, and it would be impossible to trace and replace them with fresh stock in the time at their disposal.

3. There are hundreds of chemists who have printed matter—labels, cartons, showcards, boxes, &c.—not covered by the exemption clause. If loss to them could be saved without entailing loss to the revenue, there is no reason why extra time should not be granted in which these goods may be disposed of.

4. The use of ailment-names has been universal, appearing not only in all classes of printed matter, but upon shop-bottles, fittings, and even on parts of the shop itself, and such a revolutionary change as is wrought by the Sanguinetti case can hardly be accomplished in so short a time.

I suggest that all wholesale and retail chemists who will be adversely affected by the date of enforcement remaining as already fixed should communicate at once with the Editor of this journal, and he would then be in a position to lay the views of the trade before the Board of Inland Revenue.

Yours truly,

RICHARD C. WREN,

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Association of Wholesale Druggists and Manufacturers of Medicinal Preparations.
60 Artillery Lane, E.C., November 3.

Wholesalers and Exemption 3.

SIR,—Your editorial in last week's issue will be read with great satisfaction, and bring a sense of relief to all those who have been concerned about the sale of certain well-known medicines bearing the names of any organ or part of the human body. The decision of the Inland Revenue authorities is a just and reasonable one, and clearly indicates their disposition to give full consideration to such views as are put before them by persons who are in a position to point out any reasonable grievances that may be experienced in consequence of previous decisions. Your suggestion that adjectival forms which imply nothing more than the subject forms should be included is an equally just and reasonable claim, and will, we hope, receive early consideration.

We are also of opinion that the position of the wholesale druggist supplying the retailer with preparations bearing ailment-names should be clearly defined by the Revenue authorities as early as possible, as suggested in Mr. Umney's letter in last week's issue. There has been so much uncertainty and obscurity in regard to the actual requirements of the law under the new condition of things that ample time and opportunities for proper description and consideration of such points as may arise are most desirable.

Yours faithfully,

Leicester, November 2. T. HOWARD LLOYD & CO.

SIR,—Mr. Umney's letter will be welcomed by the wholesale drug-trade as the commencement of an attempt to

settle a most important point. It is a pity, perhaps, that it was not done before; but the idea of the wholesale trade has been that they could, without question, prepare drugs both packed, labelled, and ready for sale, as well as in bulk for the chemist to sell under the exemption clause. We are afraid that Mr. Umney's suggestions re "separate businesses" and bottles being sent unlabelled are not such as would commend themselves to the trade as a whole, and I take it that they are made more to illustrate the weakness of the Inland Revenue position. The position is eminently a legal one, and we have no doubt that it is the legal adviser who has prompted the business head of Room No. 60. The crux of the matter is the meaning of the words "uttered or vended." If wholesaling is "uttering and vending," then the law seems against us; but whatever the strict legal meaning of these words may be, we think it is certain that the framers of the Act meant "uttering or vending" to the public. This is borne out by the reading of the latter portion of the exemption-clause. We strongly urge the wholesale houses to meet and appoint a deputation to wait on the authorities. They have a difficult task in the administration of this Act, and will welcome any method by which it may be made easier. In any case, they will receive a deputation with the utmost courtesy, and be ready to argue the point in all its details and (if there be any possibility from their point of view) to meet the requirements of the trade.

Yours truly,
Artillery Lane, E., November 4. POTTER & CLARKE.

[We have received other letters on this subject from leading wholesale houses, who urge the necessity of early decision on the point.—EDITOR.]

Apothecaries' Assistants.

MR. A. Mowbray Upton, Clerk to the Society of Apothecaries, sends us the subjoined correspondence for publication, which we do willingly. As the correspondence leaves the impression that the trouble arises through something that the wicked C. & D. has done, we may state that all we have had to do with it was accidental omission of the italicised word in the following sentence :

"The President explained the provisions of the new Pharmacy Bill, and said it would be the duty of that and other associations to fight for it vigorously."

Society of Apothecaries of London,
Blackfriars, London, E.C.,

October 28, 1903.

SIR,—The attention of the Society of Apothecaries has been drawn to a letter appearing over your signature in the current issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, in which you describe the holders of the assistants' certificate granted by the Society as "a dangerous class of inexperienced and uneducated persons." I have to point out to you that this statement constitutes a most serious libel, which, from the publicity given to it in the paper mentioned, is calculated to cause considerable injury both to the Society of Apothecaries and to the holders of the certificate in question. I am directed, therefore, to call upon you to unreservedly withdraw this statement and to apologise for its publication, and I must ask you to let me have a letter to this effect which can be published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. I have further to say that, unless such withdrawal and apology is forthcoming at once, the Society will, without further notice, take such steps as they may be advised to obtain legal redress.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Sd.) A. MOWBRAY UPTON,
Clerk.

A. Stooke, Esq., chemist, New Brompton.

166 High Street, New Brompton, Kent,

October 29, 1903.

SIR,—In reply to yours of 28th inst., I have not the slightest objection to express regret at having written anything that would in any way reflect on the Apothecaries' Society or its assistants, and to unreservedly withdraw the words to which you take objection, inasmuch as it would not have been published but only to correct an erroneous report in the C. & D. of my conversational remarks at an Association meeting, and at which no resolution was even intended to be taken. It is, and always has been, my desire to see that the interests of the Apothecaries' Society and Pharmaceutical Society do not clash, and to reciprocate kindly feelings towards each other, and at your request I willingly send a copy of this for publication in next issue of the C. & D.

I am, yours faithfully,
A. Stooke, President N.K. & D.C.A.
A. Mowbray Upton, Esq.

SIR.—In respect to your article *re* Mr. Bairstow's case and the assistant-apothecaries' certificate, I would like to state that I have a letter from the Secretary of the Apothecaries' Society, London, stating "that holders of their assistants' certificate are qualified to hand the bottle of medicine dispensed by them over the chemist's counter," even if it contains a scheduled poison. I take it from your article that they are breaking the Pharmacy Act by doing so. I think this matter ought to be settled once for all, in order that the assistant might know exactly how he stands. On my certificate it states that I am qualified to act as an assistant in compounding and dispensing medicines. It does not state to an apothecary or medical man, neither does it specify the place where I am qualified to do so; so I take it I am qualified to do so anywhere, in my own house if I like, so long as it is the prescription of a medical man. This, of course, applies to the London certificate only; the others do not concern me as to whether they are legal in this country or not, but I certainly think the doubt should be settled.

Yours faithfully,

ASSISTANT OF APOTHECARIES' SOCIETY
(LONDON). (201/62)

[We have another long letter on this subject in type, which we hope to print next week.]

The Recent Bradford Case.

SIR.—Pending the appeal against the decision of Judge Bompas in the case of the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Bairstow, which you reported at length in your last week's issue, it is perhaps unwise to criticise your strictures too severely, but surely none of your readers would say the Pharmacy Act was framed to prosecute assistants or apprentices employed in the pharmacies *bona fide* conducted by a registered chemist?

I am, &c.,

ALFRED T. GOTTF,

President, Association of Assistant Licentiates
of the A. H., London and Dublin.

Bradford, November 3.

[The High Court decision in the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Wheeldon settled that, and it helped Judge Bompas to inflict a fine on the defendant in Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Bairstow.—EDITOR.]

"Checking the Analyst."

SIR.—I was considerably surprised at perceiving that you published what purported to be a communication from the contractors to the Navan Union. In that communication they say that the certificate of the analyst (Professor Tichborne) stated: (1) That he (the analyst) reported that liquor conc. supplied was 15 per cent. deficient in extractive; and (2) That the Local Government Board minimum standard is 3 per cent., not 4 per cent., as stated by the analyst. I have examined the certificate of which they complain, and find that it is right in every respect. The Local Government Board standard is a minimum of 4 grams of extractive per 100 c.c., not 3, as stated by the contractors. Again, as the sample mentioned contains only 3·4 grams of extractive per 100 c.c., it gives 0·6 gram less than the minimum standard, which is, in other words, exactly 15 per cent. deficient in its extractive.

CHARLES R. C. TICHBORNE.

Dublin, November 4.

Defence, not Defiance.

SIR.—In your issue of last week Mr. Maben is reported to have said, at a meeting of the Executive of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, in reference to claims made by the authorities for alleged infringements of the Medicine-stamp Acts, that

the Chemists' Defence Association evidently could not do anything. . . . Last week he went into a chemist's shop and took up a label which he believed was liable, and advised the chemist to alter the labels. The chemist replied that he was all right. But since that time he had informed him that he had got a notice from the Inland Revenue that he was liable in a penalty of 20*s.* because he had sold two articles. The liability was incurred because there was an advertisement on the carton-box and he had used the possessive case. The representative of the Chemists' Defence Association was applied to, but he told him he was not prepared to take the case up. He did not suppose they would enter on any case in the present reading of the Revenue regulation.

I think Mr. Maben must have been speaking under a misapprehension. A number of these claims against chemists living in Glasgow and neighbourhood have been considered by the C.D.A. recently, but I am not able to identify the particular one which Mr. Maben seems to refer to. If, as he says, the label was liable, we did our duty in advising our member not to defend it, but, in any case, we could not decline to assist our member if he so desired. As a member he would be entitled to demand, whatever his label may have been, that we should either defend the case ourselves or bear the costs of its defence in the court of first instance up to an amount not exceeding 10*l.* We are under a legal obligation to our members to take one or other of these courses. I feel sure Mr. Maben did not realise that his statement amounted to a charge that the C.D.A. had shirked its legal obligations, and my object in writing is to remove any such impression which his statement may have resulted in.

Yours faithfully,

W. S. GLYN-JONES.

184 Temple Chambers, E.C., November 2.

Cajuput Oil.

SIR.—In to-day's *C. & D.* Mr. J. C. Umney draws attention to the fact that many samples of cajuput oil now coming on to the London market do not comply with the sp. gr. limits of the British Pharmacopœia. I can entirely endorse all that Mr. Umney says on the point, and agree that the limits 0·919-0·930 would be more acceptable; also that samples which show no other indications of sophistication should be passed as genuine, although not complying with the pharmacopœial requirements, so long as the sp. gr. does not fall below 0·919. I have had samples recently with sp. grs. as low as 0·902, and in one case was able to obtain a marked phellandrene reaction, due no doubt to the addition of eucalyptus oil of the amygdalina type. I think, however, that the bulk of the low-gravity samples are adulterated with petroleum, as suggested by Mr. Umney.

Yours faithfully,

ERNEST J. PARRY.

208 High Street, S.E.,

October 31.

Will 15 per Cent. Pay for Powders?

SIR.—We notice that Messrs. Ashton & Parsons, whose "Phosferine" is handled by the trade, now announce that they are bringing out powders for infants' ailments, of which the wholesale price is 10*s.* 2*½d.* per dozen net, and the protected price 1*s.* net. Now, with great deference we suggest that it is time that the trade should simply decline to handle such goods for such a margin of profit, for no man can do so except at a loss—that is, unless he cheats himself or his creditors. It is the fact that "Phosferine" is being sold at a similar margin of profit, but that is another story. The person who buys "Phosferine" knows his requirements, and merely wants to get it and go. The mother who contemplates purchasing a box of infants' powders must have a long consultation with the chemist, entering minutely into the natural history of her offspring, into what the doctor said, and the nurse said, and Mrs. Harris said. She will explain how one of Mrs. Dash's children got convulsions after Blank's powders, and how her own infant vomited after Jones's powders. She expects the experienced pharmacist to make a sort of affidavit that no child ever died after taking the powders in question; and should she, after half an hour's earnest conversation, finally purchase the box on which the chemist makes 1*½d.*, she will come in to report progress after every single one of the dozen powders in the box has been given, and expect a fresh consultation thrown in on the strength of the purchase. And this, of course, is one of those desirable persons who pay cash. Inevitably some are sold on credit, and every box not paid for destroys the profits, such as they are, on seven such transactions as the above. In solemn earnestness we submit that to ask the trade to sell a hitherto unheard-of infants' powder at 1*s.* which costs 10*s.* 2*½d.* net is an affront which should be resented.

Yours truly,

J. LEONARD & CO.

Window-displays.

SIR.—A few days ago I in common, I expect, with most chemists in the country received a circular-letter from a firm

of London food-manufacturers suggesting a window-display of their preparations. Seeing no mention of a *quid pro quo* from them, I wrote saying I should be pleased to accede to their request if they would make some remuneration in the way of food, as other firms had done. I received a reply today stating that they "did not see their way to offer remuneration for window-displays. They had never done this previously, and do not feel disposed to do so." My opinion is that most of these large firms take chemists to be blithering lunatics. I wonder if they offer the newspapers the advertisements on the same lines. The preparation I speak of is a P.A.T.A. article and carries 15 per cent. profit. I suppose they think because they give the chemist this huge profit he must give them the use of his window in return. If firms such as these would pay chemists for window-displays (one of their best means of advertising) instead of giving so much to the Press, there would be a far better feeling between the two. I should like to hear what others have to say. Transactions of this kind will never have the support of

Yours truly,

Blackpool, November 3.

W. LESLIE MAYSON.

Somerset House Courtesy.

SIR.—In reference to the authorities who are engaged to see justice done to the public in regard to medicines, I feel certain that a courteous response to the official is the policy that helps to mitigate any penalty that ignorance of the law entails. Many years ago I, like others, had erred in some wording on my labels. I was in total ignorance that the words "Try it" was a recommendation; but I found such was and is the case. There were five indictments, with penalties of 10/- in each case. Well, I wrote to the Stamps Office and explained my ignorance of any legal meaning my labels had. I received a courteous reply from the Secretary, and an interview at Somerset House ended in a nominal fine of 3/- for all the penalties incurred. During the whole time of negotiating the matter not one angry word or passage in the letters occurred. I remember so well one point—viz., that I was asked to take a chair, and as soon as it was possible I had the polite attention of the chief of the department. He pointed out where I was in the wrong, and suggested that if I would stamp the articles or expunge certain liable words the minimum penalty would meet the case. Matters were made so smooth that I felt quite pleased that I had had an opportunity of meeting with gentlemen who, as is their duty, simply carry out the law of the land. I still hope to see some more suggestions *re* labels in your columns, and trust to continue a pleased reader of your continuous flow of information to aid the chemist in his hard lot to live.

Faithfully yours,
JOHN S. SYKES.

Plumstead, October 30.

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903, before formulating Queries.

200/18. *Buchu*.—(1) Refer to our DIARY for full information about the Pharmacy Act. (2) There is nothing to prevent you selling drugs by numbers.

194/48. *C. B. V.*.—It is not necessary to stamp medicines made in Ireland which are dutiable in Great Britain, even when they are exported to Great Britain; but the first person who sells them in Great Britain must stamp them.

200/45. *W. J. G.*.—The slip that you suggest is one that we have frequently said may be used, and if you refer to our issue of October 24, under "Stamped-medicine Notes," you will find some useful information.

200/49. *S. K.*.—"Voice-lozenges" is not a dutiable title, but we are doubtful about "Respiratory voice-lozenges." The Board of Inland Revenue in announcing that organs or parts of the human body will not in future be treated as referring to ailments thereof have not given any clue as to whether such words referring to some function may be used. They are at present considering a statement about the matter which we have submitted.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

181/72. *Collisima*.—(1) Forcing the Growth of the Moustache.—A stimulating preparation, such as—

Tr. capsici	...	...	...	...	3 <i>ij.</i>
Tr. canthar.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>ss.</i>
Lin. saponis ad.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>ij.</i>

applied with a tooth-brush each night helps, but constant shaving of the upper lip for a year or so is a better plan of ensuring the growth of a moustache. (2) Carbolic Tooth-powder without chalk.—See *C. & D.*, May 9, page 757. (3) Vegetable Hair-wash, as sold in the West End:

Tr. canthar.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>v.</i>
Liq. ammon.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>iiiss.</i>
Aq. coloniensis	...	...	...	...	3 <i>xij.</i>
Spt. rosmari.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>xiv.</i>
Aq. rosae	...	...	...	...	3 <i>xx.</i>
Aq. dest.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>xxx.</i>

M.

175/51. *J. B. S.*.—White-boot Dressing.—You will find a model for this in the *C. & D.*, October 25, 1902, page 717.

199/31. *Canuck*.—Except that sesame oil dries more rapidly than olive oil it is an efficient substitute for the latter in many preparations. It is not quite so bland, however, as it has to a slight extent the characteristics of mustard oil.

199/64. *Pater*.—Quinine still remains the sovereign remedy for malaria, and you cannot do better for the advice of your friend in Cape Colony than to send him a copy of the book by Major Ronald Ross, F.R.S., published by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, which you can get through Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited).

174/6. *J. W. M.* wants to know what is the most suitable vegetable oil to burn in a sanctuary-lamp for eight days. He has tried the finest colza, but it only lasts for twelve hours, while a London firm supplies an oil at 4*s. 6d.* a gal. which lasts the required time. Perhaps some of our readers may help.

198/37. *Ozone*.—One-solution Hair-dye:

Acid. pyrogallic.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>ss.</i>
Liq. ammoniae	...	...	...	...	3 <i>ij.</i>
S.V.R.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>j.</i>
Aq. dest.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>iiij.</i>

M. et S.

201/13. *Sterline*.—Pagenstaecker's Eye-ointment, as originally prepared by Apotheker Hofmann, was made from the freshly precipitated yellow oxide of mercury (see *C. & D.*, vol. 51, page 53). Hofmann made the oxide by precipitating mercuric-chloride solution with potash solution, collecting the precipitate, washing it, and drying in the dark. As required the oxide was rubbed down in a porcelain mortar with almond oil, and mixed with the desired proportion of non-aqueous ointment. The strength which Pagenstaecker used originally was 1 in 8, but we have seen his prescription for 2 gr. to the drachm, which is the more common strength.

176/5. (1) Hydrarg. subchlor. is no use in a nit-ointment. The most effective ointments contain powdered hellebore or a little veratrine. (2) Carbolic-acid solution (1-20) is quite suitable as a disinfectant for dental forceps.

200/22. *Koko*.—We have sent you the Educational Number, containing information respecting the Spectacle-makers' examinations. When you digest that write to us again.

Information Wanted.

197/38. Who is the maker of "Wheeler's corn-cure"?

203/55. Address of makers of "Sponziekte" vaccine and needles.

201/74. Makers of "Belfast Linen" (registered) catheters, or where procurable?

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Monday, November 9.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association, Church House, Church Street, at 8.30 P.M. Business: New medicine-stamp regulations, report of delegates to West Riding Federation, &c.

Tuesday, November 10.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 8 P.M. Evening meeting. Mr. Edmund White will read a paper on "Kino," and Mr. Wm. Garsed one on "The Assay of Crude Cocaine."

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 9 P.M. Mr. A. Hanson will read a paper on the "B.P.C."

Huddersfield Chemists' Association, Queen's Hotel, at 8.45 P.M. Adjourned annual meeting.

Wednesday, November 11.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, Mr. W. Kirkby on "Old Manchester Pharmacies," with lime-light illustrations.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, West Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at 8.30 P.M. Business, Medicine-stamp Act and suggested formulary, and discussion on the suggested C.O.D. postal system, to be opened by the President.

Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association, Clarendon Hotel, at 8 P.M. Annual dinner. Tickets, 5s. each, may be had from Mr. S. V. Booth, 25 Grosvenor Road, or Mr. Bishop, Broadway Pharmacy, Tunbridge Wells. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society and Mr. R. A. Rohinson will be present.

Hartlepool Chemists' Association, smoking-concert, at the Grand Hotel, West Hartlepool, at 8 P.M. Business meeting at 7 P.M.

Bristol Pharmaceutical Association, University College, at 8.30 P.M. Discussion on the new stamped-medicine regulations, initiated by Mr. H. E. Matthews.

Thursday, November 12.

West Ham Chemists' Association, concert at the Earlham Hall, Forest Gate, at 8 P.M. Tickets of admission (free) may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Walter Gwinn, 143 Cann Hall Road, Leytonstone, N.E. All members of the trade are cordially invited to be present. Light refreshments will be provided during the interval.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, annual reunion (smoking-concert), the Banqueting-hall, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, at 8.15 P.M. Chairman, Mr. Mowbray Trentham Maw. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, from all members of Council, or from Mr. R. E. Lownshrough, 143 New Bond Street, W.

North Staffordshire Chemists' Association, Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent. General meeting to consider and discuss "Territorial Representation."

Friday, November 13.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association. Mr. E. F. Church has invited the members to meet at his house in St. Andrews Street, at 9.15 P.M., for an evening on "Dispensing." Introductory remarks by the President, Mr. E. Saville Peck, M.A. Junior members specially invited.

The Burgoyne Burbidges Cricket Club smoking-concert is to be held in Hamilton Hall, Great Eastern Hotel, on Friday, November 20, at 7.45 P.M. Tickets, 1s., may be obtained from Mr. Dealy, 16 Coleman Street, E.C.

WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION of London, Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on Wednesday, November 18, at 6.30 for 7 P.M. Tickets, price 7s. 6d. each (exclusive of wine), may be obtained from Mr. W. J. I. Philp, Hon. Secretary, 34 High Street, Notting Hill, London, W.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., is to preside at the tenth annual dinner of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy to be held in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Saturday evening, November 28. Old students who desire to be present are requested to communicate promptly with Mr. Watson-Will, 160 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

An evening meeting of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society will be held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, November 18, at 8.30, when an inaugural address on "Bacterial Therapeutics," will be given by Mr. J. Taylor Grant, M.D., B.Sc., lecturer on bacteriology, Royal Colleges School of Medicine, Edinburgh. It will be illustrated by lantern-slides, bacterial cultures and microscopic specimens, and the two latter will be on view in the Museum from 8 P.M. onwards.

A Canadian Letter.

THE chief point of interest in the Quebec Province last month was the pharmaceutical examinations held in Quebec. The successful candidates were P. J. Leduc, J. A. D. Godbout, A. B. Scarf, J. A. Roy, E. Dion, J. Pigeon, and J. Morceau, the last named obtaining the highest marks, his results showing 83 per cent. Nine applicants for the pharmaceutical degree were sent back for further study. Certificates as clerks were granted to the following: J. H. Labonde, C. A. Dechesnes, H. E. Pepin, J. B. Giroux, H. Therin, C. E. Gravel, and H. Hibour. Eleven students who made application for clerks' certificates were unable to procure the necessary marks. The examiners were Messrs. A. E. Duberger, *materia medica*; Alex. B. J. Moore, *pharmacy*; E. Giroux, *dispensing*; R. W. Williams, *botany*; H. Guerin, *chemistry*; W. H. Chapman, *practical chemistry*.

* * *

A case in which chemists and physicians are deeply interested has just come before the Canadian courts. The plaintiff claimed damages both against a physician and a druggist on account of a mistake in a prescription which had been transmitted by telephone. The action was withdrawn as against the doctor; but the Judge declared that the Court deemed it a duty to state that the practice of physicians transmitting their prescriptions by telephone is exceedingly dangerous, and should be resorted to only in case of great urgency. In thus acting physicians exposed themselves to damages in the event of any mistake taking place.

* * *

Great scarcity of castor oil is likely to prevail as the traders report scarcity of the animals, and it is likely that in a short time prices will advance materially. One trader says he has never known the supplies so meagre.

* * *

In consequence of the abundance of employment throughout the Dominion the arrivals of balsam canadensis this year have been very small. The "habitants" will only gather balsam when other means of employment are not remunerative. As much as 40c. to 43c. per lb. has been paid in the producing centres. This points to much higher figures for balsam in the near future. The question of labour is bound to affect all drugs indigenous to the American continent, as men will only turn their attention to the collection of them when other avenues are closed.

* * *

The recent financial troubles at Sault Ste.-Marie (Ontario) are likely to affect the electrolytic production of chemicals for some time somewhat adversely; but it is hoped that the works will resume operations at an early date—it is rumoured through the assistance of English capitalists.

* * *

From Newfoundland reports of the failure of the fishing continue to arrive. It is said that conditions there have never been worse than they are at present, and some buyers of cod-liver oil are said to be taking legal measures to enforce delivery of their contracts.

* * *

The *Pharmacie Laborieuse* (Pharmaceutical Students' Association of Montreal) held their annual meeting at Laval University recently, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, J. A. Goyer; Vice-President, Charles Lippens; Secretary, V. Archambault; Treasurer, P. Mount; organiser, L. Tellier; committee, J. Desrosiers, M. Paquin, J. B. Cousineau, H. Barre, L. Boucher, A. Dansereau and P. Robichaud. The *Pharmacie Laborieuse* is a very progressive society, and its work is all carried on in the French language.

A "PATENT" FLY-CATCHER.—At the Hull Police Court on October 28, John Moore, manufacturing chemist, 24 Freeman Street, Grimsby, was the complainant in an action under the Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks Act of 1883, against James Ellis for using the word "Patent" upon a fly-catcher which was not patented, and which Mr. W. J. Tahrun, of London, said was an infringement of Mr. Moore's reel. Defendant, who denied the offence, was fined 27, including costs.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: November 5

BUSINESS has not been very brisk in drugs and chemicals since our last report, and there are but few alterations in value to record. There has been a fair amount of speculation in quinine at fluctuating prices, but the exceptionally heavy cinchona-shipments from Java during October brought about a decline early in the week, although prices subsequently recovered to a partial extent. A sudden fall of 2s. per oz. has taken place in cocaine, probably due to competition on the part of "outside" makers. English strychnine has further advanced, and makers of podophyllum resin have raised their prices. Iodide of potassium of various makes is being freely offered at slightly under the Convention rates, and it is wondered how much longer a reduction in prices can be staved off. Essential oils are for the most part unaltered, with the exception of American oil of peppermint, which is being pressed for sale in some quarters. Cascara sagrada has been sold at lower prices for new. In the market for heavy chemicals the most important features are that the present prices for soda-ash, caustic soda, and soda crystals are to be continued for next year. It is also reported that an arrangement has lately been concluded in the United States at a conference of British, continental, and American manufacturers of bleaching-powder, by which this article is placed on a better footing as regards export, it being said that shipments to and from many countries will be barred. Prices of ammonia sulphate have eased off, as the Scottish shale miners' strike is now over. The following are the principal alterations of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Benzoin (Sumatra)	Acid, carbolic	Ammonia sulphate	Cascara sagrada
Cocoa-butter	Arsenic	Benzols	Cocaine
Fuel oil	Quinine (sec. hands)	Pepper	Indiarubber
Podophyllum resin (B.P.)			Nutmegs (W.I.)
Strychnine			Oil, pepper- mint (Amer.)

New Chemical-works.

The *Electrician* announces that an electro chemical company has acquired the large salt deposits on Walney Island, Barrow-in-Furness, where it is proposed to establish electro-chemical works for the manufacture of caustic soda and chlorine products direct from the brine.

German Potato-spirit.

According to official figures relating to the output of potato-spirit in Germany during the season, October, 1902, to September, 1903, we find that the total production amounted to 130,210,000 proof gals., as compared with 163,290,000 proof gals. for the corresponding period of 1901-2. Of this quantity 89,863,000 proof gals. were retained for home consumption, or 1,711,000 proof gals. less than in the previous season. The amount of duty-free spirit manufactured was 14,807,000 proof gals. compared with 15,727,000 proof gals. for the season of 1901-2, and the quantity taken for methylation purposes was 7,653,000 proof gals. more than in 1901-2, being 31,824,000 proof gals.,

against 27,171,000 proof gals. An important fact to be noted is that the stock on September 30 showed a considerable reduction, being only 11,564,000 proof gals., against 38,878,000 proof gals. on September 30, 1902. These figures show a reduction of one-third, and consequently prices have advanced by one-third. It may be mentioned that the duty-free spirit was used for manufacturing-purposes in the drug and chemical industries, while the methylated spirit was chiefly used for lighting.

Newfoundland Cod-liver Oil.

Cod liver oil continues to occupy a considerable amount of attention in Newfoundland. Reports from St. John's state that the article has run up to \$3.75 per Imp. gal. for non-freezing. A number of contracts were made in the spring of the year at \$1.50 and other prices, which were deemed excessive at the time. It is to be regretted that several individuals who have made contracts are not fulfilling their engagements, and the *Trade Review* of St. John's, dealing with the situation, states:—"One peculiar feature of the market is that nobody can guess, even approximately, how much oil is to come in from the refiners. Many of these gentlemen have broken their contracts, and for obvious reasons are not taking the straight road to the market. The product is reaching the city by devious routes, and in the names of men who never refined a noggins of oil in their lives. Many a man will ship in his mother-in-law's name rather than run the risk of having the goods held up by process of law for breach of contract." It is rumoured that there is at present considerable demand for corn oil, which, it is claimed, is now used for adulterating cod-liver oil in the proportions of three of corn oil to one of cod-liver oil. It is said that its appearance is such that it cannot be distinguished from cod-liver oil, and that it has the further advantage, from the sophisticator's point of view, that it will stand the acid-test for cod-liver oil.

Canadian Honey.

Honey is said to be plentiful in the Dominion this year, and from Manitoba and Ontario large quantities are offered; in fact, there appears to have been a tremendous crop all over Canada. There is not the slightest doubt (says our Canadian correspondent) that if the apiarists could succeed in improving the flavour of Canadian honey they would have an enormous outlet for it.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general condition of the heavy-chemical market remains without material change from the position recently notified. Business on both prompt and forward account keeps up well, and if anything probably shows an increase. Home demand is a shade brisker, and exports are good and fully equal to the season's average. Fair business over next year continues to be completed. As regards values, there is little to say except that they are on the whole steady and well maintained.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is a shade weaker, but inquiries on the market are fairly numerous.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Caustic soda is in fair request, and prices are steadily maintained for both prompt and forward: 76 to 77 per cent., 10. 10s. to 10. 12s. 6d. per ton; 70 per cent., 9l. 15s. to 9l. 17s. 6d. per ton; and 60 per cent., 8l. 15s. to 8l. 17s. 6d. per ton. Bleaching-powder continues to move well, and particularly so on export account. For forward quotations are firmly maintained at 4l. 5s. to 4l. 15s. per ton, according to market; but for prompt prices are still irregular, and vary between about 3l. 10s. and 4l. per ton. Ammonia alkali very firm and unchanged at 4l. 10s. to 4l. 15s. per ton, free on rails at works. Soda crystals continue to move briskly at 62s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Tyne, and 67s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Bicarbonate of soda in steady request at 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. per ton in large casks, and 6l. 15s. to 7l. 2s. 6d. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs, f.o.b. Liverpool. Saltcake has fully maintained its late firmer tone, and price is steady at about 30s. per ton, free on rails in bulk. Chlorates of potash and soda keep on the quiet side at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. Yellow prussiates of potash and soda continue in increased demand, and are fairly steady: potash, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.; and soda, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 4d. per lb. Sulphate of soda (Glauber's salts) is without change at 27s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in bags. Hyposulphite of soda continues to maintain a better tone, and more business has been passing. Casks (6 to 8 cwt.), 5l. to 5l. 10s. per ton; 1-cwt. kegs, 5l. 15s. to 7l. 15s. per ton, according to quality and quantity. Silicates of soda are unchanged, and are moving steadily: 140° Tw., 47. 2s. 6d. to 47. 12s. 6d. per ton; 100° Tw., 37. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 2s. 6d. per ton; and 75° Tw., 3l. 5s. to 3l. 15s. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and market, f.o.b. Liverpool or Tyne, in usual casks.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, November 3

Business in general is very quiet, and our drug-market shows little business.

ANTIMONY is steady at 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per 100 kilos.

ANISEED is very firm and scarce at 40m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is flat at 165m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is firmer owing to few offers of crude. Makers' prices are still unchanged.

CEVADILLA is quiet at 95m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT is quieter at 340m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA continues firm; Rio is held for 13m., and Cartagena 11m. per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM is very firm at 510m. per 100 kilos.

SUGAR OF MILK is steady at 110m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPANESE) is firm at 145m. per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Cod-liver oil is unchanged. Castor is quiet.

Linseed very dull. Wood is scarce, and rape quiet.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Star anise is firm at 10½m. per kilo.

Peppermint (HGH) is quoted 14½m. per lb., and Japanese for forward delivery 18½m. per kilo.

CUMIN-SEED is very firm, Malta being offered at 47m. per 100 kilos.

CALUMBA is firmer and in good demand, natural being quoted 30m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE is quiet, the price for hydrochloride having been reduced to 460m. per kilo.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, November 5.—Japanese wax, aniseed, senega, and star-aniseed oil are all firmer.

NEW YORK, November 5.—Business here is tame. Opium is a dull market at \$3.20 per lb., in single cases. Quinine has shown more activity at 25c. per oz. for domestic make. Cascara sagrada is easier at 15c. per lb. for new bark, and mandrake-root is still scarce at 8c. per lb. Mexican sarsaparilla is firmly held at 14c. per lb. Oil of peppermint is easy at \$2.60 per lb. for tin oil. Blood-root is strong at 14c. per lb., and both Rio and Cartagena ipecac. are firmer at \$1.40 and \$1.25 per lb. respectively.

ALCOHOL.—German potato-spirit is again dearer, drugists' quality being now quoted at 8½d. to 9½d. per proof gal. in bond. The German combination are reported to have sold all they have so far produced, and it is further said the potato-crop is only a medium one.

ALMONDS.—A Messina report, dated October 31, states that the Bari market is again causing surprises. The export season was about closing when a sudden advance took place at Bari, which is also influencing the Messina market. This advance will probably hold on until the shipping season finishes, when prices may recede. P & G sweet are quoted 58s. 3d., bitter ditto 62s., current Avola 67s., and choice Avola 74s. per cwt.

ALOES.—A few small sales of Socotrine in kegs have been made at about 70s. per cwt. Good livery Curaçao is still scarce, and there have been no arrivals of this description. Ten cases Zanzibar have arrived.

ANISEED.—Natural Levant seed is offered at 20s. per cwt., c.i.f.

ARROWROOT.—Steady in auction, several hundred packages of St. Vincent selling at 2d. per lb. for good manufacturing. Pearl was bought in at 3½d.

ASAFTIDA.—Some of the new season's arrivals from the Persian Gulf and Bombay may be expected within the next three or four weeks. It is anticipated that they will meet with a ready sale, as there is a good inquiry.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Holders in Liverpool are firm at 1s. 7½d. per lb., though no sales have taken place at that figure.

BELLADONNA-ROOT is firm at 40s. per cwt., c.i.f., for good.

BENZOIN.—Since the auctions some of the importers have advanced their prices by 5s. per cwt., and are now asking up to 7l. for good Sumatra seconds. There has been several inquiries for Siam, which is scarce.

CALABAR BEANS.—Small sales have taken place in Liverpool at from 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and nothing is now offered under the higher figure.

CANTHARIDES.—From Hamburg, Russian flies are quoted 3s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Quiet, with small sales of old bark at 85s., and new at 75s., spot. To-day we hear that a parcel of new has been sold at 65s. Advices from two sources in

New York are contradictory in tone, and prices show a wide range.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java during October were as follows:

	Amsterdam			Amsterdam		
Year	Lbs.	Year	Lbs.	Year	Lbs.	
1903	2,012,000	1897	735,000			
1902	1,700,000	1896	862,000			
1901	1,577,000	1895	1,100,000			
1900	1,100,000	1894	952,000			
1899	959,000	1893	349,000			
1898	969,000					

January—October.

	Amsterdam			Amsterdam		
Year	Lbs.	Year	Lbs.	Year	Lbs.	
1903	11,529,000	1897	6,717,000			
1902	11,054,000	1896	8,280,000			
1901	10,301,000	1895	6,929,700			
1900	8,190,000	1894	7,577,000			
1899	9,421,800	1893	6,225,000			
1898	8,895,000					

At the auction to be held at Amsterdam on November 12 702,329 kilos. of Java bark, containing 31,879 kilos. of quinine sulphate, will be offered. The manufacturing bark contains an average of 5·30 per cent. quinine sulphate, against 5·42 per cent. for the October auction, and 5·51 per cent. average for the ten auctions of 1902.

COCAINE.—A reduction of 2s. per oz. was announced on Saturday, makers now quoting Hydrochloride at from 13s. 6d. to 14s. per oz., and at from 15s. 6d. to 16s. per oz. for the Pure alkaloid, according to quantity, the latter figure being given for small wholesale lots. Various reasons are being given for the reduction, it being due partly to the returned stocks from India and the closing of that market. Competition with outside French makers is probably the chief reason.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At auction 50 tons Cadbury's A brand sold at 11½d. to 1s. 0½d. per lb., the average being 1s. per lb. At the Amsterdam auctions 75 tons Van Houten's sold at 65½c. to 69½c. (average price 67 30c., against 62 45c. at the previous auction), 11 tons de Jong sold at 61½c. to 62½c., and 2,800 kilos. unbranded sold at 57½c. to 57¾c., and 5 tons Mignon at 62½c. to 62¾c. per half-kilo.

ERGOT.—Very quiet, with sellers at from 1s. 8d. up to 2s., spot, but no business appears to have been done.

FUSEL OIL is dearer. White washed is now quoted 60½d. to 62½d. per ton, f.o.b. Continent. It appears that the makers have practically sold all their output for next year, and still higher prices are anticipated. The demand has been principally for export to the United States, where it is mostly used in the manufacture of acetate of amyl, which in turn is used as a solvent in the manufacture of smokeless gunpowder.

GUMS (VARNISH).—At auction there was a good demand for Kauri, and about half sold at full prices to an advance of 5s. (for chips, and brown). Small Manila Copal sold readily, the better sorts being bought in.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—It is rumoured that the combination which was dissolved some time ago through the stress of competition is again to be re-formed, and it may probably include the American makers.

IPECACUANHA has been quiet since the auctions, Rio (Matto Grosso) offering at from 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb., and fair Cartagena is still obtainable at 5s. per lb. The deliveries from the warehouses for the whole of October exceeded 180 bales of all descriptions.

JABORANDI-LEAVES are quoted at 9½d. per lb., c.i.f.

MARSHMALLOW.—The new crop is expected to be ready during the second half of this month, and promises to be favourable.

MENTHOL is offered at from 22s. 6d. to 25s. per lb., spot, according to holder; and for shipment business has been done at 19s. per lb., c.i.f., for October-November. It is expected that there will be a "squeeze" in this article, as some contracts for shipment have not been covered; and it is said that unbranded menthol has been offered by sellers on contracts for Kobayashi brand.

OIL, CAMPHOR.—White is quoted from Hamburg at 32s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 31 that the oil-market is unaltered, holders being indisposed to sell at the present quotation of 480s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, for finest non-congealing oil. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 2,083 barrels, against 3,226 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

OIL, OLIVE.—A Messina report, dated October 31, states that an average crop is promised, as the reports are favourable. The prolonged drought, however, imparts an upward tendency to the market, and the demand for fresh oil for home use is large. Yellow Messina is quoted 31*l.*, green ditto 30*l.* 5*s.*, burning Russia 36*l.*, Gallipoli at 31*l.* 10*s.*, and choice ditto at 33*l.* 10*s.* per ton of 1,045 kilos.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—In the absence of business American oil is dull and lower, and it is evident the "bear" feeling still exists, with pressure to sell. HGH is offered at from 13*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.* per lb., according to seller; and various brands of tin oil are quoted 12*s.* per lb., spot. In Japanese dementhosilised oil September-October and October-November shipment is much wanted, as there are contracts which have been made for these positions and not yet covered. The consequence is that these positions are firm, and business has been done at 7*s.* 6*d.* per lb., c.i.f., for September-October shipment.

OPIUM.—The London market is steady, with retail sales of good Smyrna druggists' at 9*s.* 6*d.*, and a few cases of the lower grades of Persian at 10*s.* per lb.

SMYRNA, October 23.—The market is quiet, sales amounting to seven cases of old selected material for the Continent at 8*s.* 6*d.* per lb., f.o.b. Sufficient rain has fallen to enable the farmers to go on with the sowings, and there is an all-round weaker feeling. If large buyers keep out of the market for two or three weeks there will probably be a further slight decline. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,508 cases, against 4,284 cases at the same time last year.

PODOPHYLLUM.—Very little is now obtainable here, the market having been practically cleared. Manufacturers of Resin have advanced their prices 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*, and one of the leading B.P. makes is quoted 10*s.* 6*d.* per lb., net.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—Competition is becoming keener, as a Scotch manufacturer, who is "outside" the convention, is offering at 8*s.* per lb., less the usual discount, which is 3*d.* below the convention price for bottom quantities. Parcels of American and continental make of pot. iodid. are also being offered at rather under the syndicate prices.

QUININE.—Previous to the heavy October bark-shipments from Java being known, there had been a fairly active demand at dearer prices, December selling up to 1*s.* 1*d.* and March up to 1*s.* 1*1/2**d.*, with purchases of moderate quantities from the factories at 1*s.* 1*d.* The declaration of the shipments on Monday, however, came like a thunderclap on the market, and there was an immediate decline of 1*d.* in second hands. The next day there was a recovery to the extent of 1*d.*, speculators coming forward and purchasing some 150,000 oz., including spot at 1*s.* 0*1/2**d.*, December at 1*s.* 0*3/4**d.* to 1*s.* 0*1/2**d.*, and March 1*s.* 0*4/5**d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* Subsequently a much quieter feeling prevailed, with further sellers at 1*s.* 0*3/4**d.* for December and 1*s.* 1*d.* for March. To-day the market is quiet, with sellers at 1*s.* 0*3/4**d.* for December and 1*s.* 0*1/2**d.* for March.

The landings during October were 992 oz., and the deliveries 31,472 oz., making the stock on October 31, 3,078,976 oz., against 3,382,032 oz. in 1902.

The exports from Java during August amounted to 214 cases, shipped in one consignment to the United States. From January to August, inclusive, the exports have been:

	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899
Cases ...	... 1,262	834	1,222	1,059	1,337

SAFFRON.—Very firm. Finest new Valencia is quoted 40*s.*, superior 37*s.* 6*d.* to 38*s.* 6*d.*, and medium 35*s.* 6*d.* per lb., net from the importers. Alicante is offered at 22*s.* 6*d.* The crop is now practically gathered, and it is estimated to yield about half of the previous one.

SANDARAC.—From Hamburg prime Australian is quoted 60*s.* per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

SARSAPARILLA.—An arrival of 43 serons Honduras has taken place, and also about 20 bales of Lima-Jamaica.

SHELLAC.—The market on the spot continues firm on a basis of 220*s.* for fair TN, cash terms, with moderate sales thereat, and for arrival October-December shipment TN has sold at from 209*s.* to 213*s.* per cwt., c.i.f. Futures have further advanced, December delivery selling up to 225*s.*, January 216*s.*, and March 209*s.* 6*d.* To-day the market closes, 4*s.* to 5*s.* dearer, 1,500 cases TN being sold at 226*s.* to 228*s.* for December, 221*s.* to 222*s.* for January, and 213*s.* to 215*s.* for March; AC Garnet sold at 195*s.* spot.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday *Ginger* was neglected 386 bags of Cochin being bought in at 34*s.* for good washed rough, and 30*s.* for good cuttings; 53 cases were also bought in at 45*s.* for small cut. No Jamaica was offered. *Pepper* was bought in at 6*1/2**d.* for fair Singapore, 6*1/2**d.* for Tellicherry, and 6*1/4**d.* for Alleppey. Privately the market closed easier on Wednesday at 6*1/2**d.* and January-March shipment at 6*1/2**d.* per lb. In auction *White pepper* was bought in at 10*1/2**d.* for fair Siam. *Nutmegs* were steady but quiet, Singapore being taken out at 2*s.* 2*d.* per lb. West Indian were rather lower, and *Mace* was quiet, 35 packages of West Indian selling at 2*s.* 5*d.* for good pale, 2*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.* for fair, and 2*s.* to 2*s.* 1*d.* for ordinary. Fair to good fair Zanzibar *Cloves* were bought in at 7*5/8**d.* to 7*2/4**d.*, and 6 cases of Penang were taken out at 1*s.* per lb. Privately, the market for Zanzibar has been fluctuating, but on Wednesday prices were dearer, January-March and March-May delivery selling at 7*2/4**d.* per lb. with further sellers to-day at this price. The receipts in Zanzibar during October are amended to 5,800 bales, making the crop so far 24,400 bales, against 26,200 bales during the same period of last year.

STRYCHNINE.—The scarcity of raw material has compelled makers to advance their prices a further 2*d.*, and *Hulle's* make of crystals in 1-oz. bottles is now quoted at 2*s.* per oz. net, and soluble at 1*s.* 10*d.* net.

TEREBENE.—Pure is quoted 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb., which price may be shaded for large quantities.

VALERIAN.—The new crop of Belgian has been delayed owing to the wet weather, but it is now in process of being gathered. Reports from the Harz mountains and Thuringia intimate that the crops are not so favourable as last year, and higher prices are asked for the former description than for the latter.

VANILLIN.—From Hamburg a good demand is reported at higher prices, one holder offering at 16*s.* per lb., c.i.f.

Arrivals.

The following drugs, chemicals, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from October 23 to 27, inclusive: Acetone (@ Fiume), 15*s.*; acid, oxalic (@ Hamburg), 2*s.*; acid, salicylic (@ Amsterdam), 3*cs.*; acid, sulphuric (@ Rotterdam), 12*s.*; acid, tartaric (@ Rotterdam), 4*s.*; albumen 34, (@ Hamburg) 60, (@ Antwerp) 3*s.*; aniseed (@ Marseilles), 26*s.*; arrowroot (@ St. Vincent), 1,315*s.*; arsenic (@ Antwerp), 11*s.*; "balsams" (@ Para), 5*s.*; bleaching-powder (@ Tréport) 115, (@ Hamburg) 25*s.*; Calabar beans (@ W.C.A.), 10*s.*; calcium carbide (@ Rotterdam), 33*s.*; camphor (@ Havre), 10*cs.*; canary-seed (@ Rodosto) 4,018*bgs.*, (@ Seville) 125*s.*; cardamome 11, (@ Marseilles) 52*s.*; cascara sagrada (@ New York), 669*sks.*; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 10*s.*; cinchona (@ Amsterdam), 50*bls.*; cloves (@ New York), 1,000*s.*; cochineal (@ Canary Islands), 49*s.*; cream of tartar (@ Barcelona) 10, (@ Tarragona) 11, (@ Bordeaux) 143*s.*; drngs (@ Trieste), 174*s.*; ethyl chloride (@ Boulogne), 4*s.*; formaldehyde (@ Amsterdam), 10*blns.*; gum, unenumerated (@ Suez) 330*s.*; (@ Alexandria) 22*s.*; honey (@ Montreal), 71*s.*; kola (@ W.C. Africa), 3*s.*; lime-juice (@ Dominica) 26, (@ Halifax) 29*s.*; liquorice (@ Catania) 105*cs.*, (@ Messina) 104*cs.*; liquorice-root (@ Seville) 90*cs.*; liquorice-paste (@ Smyrna) 125*cs.*, (@ Seville) 50*cs.*; oil, castor (@ Italy) 75*s.*; oil, calcutta, 25*s.*; oil, cod-liver (@ Aalesund) 178, (@ Bergen) 13, (@ New York) 9, (@ St. John's, Nfld.) 56*s.*; oil, eucalyptus (@ Bremen), 51*s.*; oil, lime (@ Dominica), 10*s.*; oils, essential (@ Messina) 40, (@ Ostend) 9, (@ Flushing) 4*s.*; oil, olibanum (@ Havre), 50*cs.*; opium (@ Smyrna), 139*cs.*; pimento (@ Jamaica), 189*s.*; pot-chlor. (@ Gothenburg), 260*s.*; pot, cyanide (@ Hamburg) 20*s.*; Paris) 40*s.*; quicksilver (@ Italy), 23*s.*; "roots" (@ Marseilles) 168, (@ New York) 81*s.*; sal ammoniac (@ Rotterdam), 10*s.*; sandarac (@ Mogador), 19*s.*; sarsaparilla (@ Panama), 32*bls.*; senna (@ Alexandria), 20*s.*; shellac (@ Calcutta) 83*s.*; button lac, 103*s.*; soda acetate (@ Antwerp), 20*s.*; soda carbonate (@ New York), 250*s.*; soda caustic (@ Antwerp), 17*s.*; soda chlorate (@ Gothenburg), 124*s.*; squills (@ Messina), 12*s.*; sugar of milk (@ Amsterdam) 10*s.*; (@ Hamburg) 100*cs.*; tartar (@ Genoa) 28, (@ Messina) 15, (@ Rotterdam) 34*s.*; wax, bees' (@ Marseilles) 37, (@ Hamburg) 44*s.*; (@ Spain) 11*s.*; wax, Carnauba (@ Hamburg), 65*s.*.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

THE annual dinner was held at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield, on Thursday evening, October 29, and proved to be one of the most important and enjoyable functions in the history of the Society. The chair was occupied by Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, F.C.S. (President), who had on his right Mr. S. R. Atkins, Mr. J. W. Pye-Smith, F.R.C.S., and Principal Hicks, F.R.S.; and on his left Alderman J. Wycliffe Wilson (Lord Mayor of Sheffield), Mr. Alderman Batty Langley, M.P., and Mr. J. Rymer Young. Amongst others present were Messrs. J. Austen, J. B. Pater, J. G. Jackson, Percy Carr, C. F. Carr, H. G. Williams, G. Ellinor, A. R. Fox, R. D. Douglas, G. Squire, J. W. J. Turner, F. W. Whitworth, John Evans, A.I.C., F. Medley, R. Dixon, J. F. Eardley, H. Antcliffe (Hon. Secretary), Drs. Tregenza, Sorley, Hearn, F. Harrison, Risely, and Walker, Messrs. T. Fletcher, M.R.C.V.S., Arthur Neal, J. S. Stephens, T. Morrison, J. P. Sharman, H. J. Wilks, H. G. Fletcher, G. Blackwell, L. A. Morley, and W. Brinson (Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb).

At the commencement of the proceedings the Chairman referred to the many distinguished guests who were present, and on behalf of the Society extended to them a very hearty welcome. After the loyal toasts he proposed

"THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT."

He touched upon the House of Lords, and hesitated to refer to the House of Commons, because it is suffering from a serious illness—"fiscalitis." (Laughter.) He referred to this serious illness because he did not think it augured well for

them as pharmacists, as when the House met again next February the whole of the time would be so taken up with this disease that they would have little to spend on the affairs which concerned them as pharmacists. He referred to the Pharmacy Bill. He spoke of its introduction, and remarked that it had been said that the Pharmaceutical Society is more or less a trade-union body, which some people think exists largely for the protection of the craft in the way of prices. He wished to disabuse the minds of the gentlemen present as to this. The Council of the

Society never entertain the question of prices which individual chemists charge. In any legislation they promote it is not that they wish to have a monopoly of the sale of drugs for the purpose of filling their pockets; but the Council are charged with public duties by the State, and they must look after the interests of the public. He reviewed the objects of the Bill, in this connection quoting a circular issued under his name as President of the Society to every member of Parliament, setting out the objects of the Bill. [This was printed in our issue of June 20, page 981.] He supposed the most controversial portion of the whole Bill was the clause referring to companies. He saw no reason for avoiding reference to this because it happened not to commend itself to their distinguished guest who represents the Attercliffe Division of Sheffield. Their case was a strong and straightforward one, and did not base itself upon hostility to stores or any other form of commercial development. It was purely a matter of public safety and common justice to individuals possessing a statutory qualification of a professional nature. On both grounds it should possess a passport to the favour of members of Parliament, irrespective of party or Imperial politics; but he was sorry to have to say that their expectations in this connection had suffered some disappointments. Thirty-five

years ago Parliament enacted a measure making it unlawful for any person not possessed of a certain standard of technical skill and scientific knowledge to (a) exhibit or use the title "chemist"; (b) dispense, compound, or sell poisons; and (c) keep open shop for retailing, dispensing, or compounding. (Note: the keeper of the open shop as well as the seller.) In other words, the Legislature in 1868 intended, and thought it essential on public grounds, to lay down the principle that persons who wish to be known as chemists, and desire to handle poisons, shall be competent and trained persons. Surely no one would care to maintain to-day that that is an unreasonable or unwarrantable measure of public protection for Parliament to create! But in 1880 the House of Lords, in its judicial capacity, overruled what it had done twelve years previously in its legislative capacity. It decided that the word "person" in the penal clause of the Act of 1868 did not include a corporation, and thus the real protective force of the Act was weakened—indeed, virtually destroyed—for in place of qualification by training and examination there had been substituted qualification by company incorporation. He asked M.P.s whether this condition of things should be allowed to continue, and whether they thought the general public, if the facts were recognised, would wish it to continue. What the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society aimed at by Clause 7 of the Bill—the clause which he understood caused Mr. Langley to block the measure last Session—was to ensure that the effective control of the semi-professional business of a chemist and druggist should not nominally, but actually, in the hands of the specially qualified persons who were created by statute to stand between the poison and the purchaser. The ordinary citizen has a right, he said, to demand that the flaw in draftsmanship discovered by the House of Lords over twenty years ago should be repaired, and they would be wanting in the due recognition of their statutory obligations if they did not continue their endeavours, session after session, to remove the glaring anomalies of the law relating to the sale of poison. Whether the wording of Clause 7 was perfect or not, it was scarcely competent for a mere layman like himself to say, but it was an honest and a not unreasonable attempt to remedy a judicial scandal. If Mr. Langley could suggest other wording as effectual in giving the real control to which he had referred, they would esteem his help, but personally he had never yet found anyone who had been able to draft a better alternative. Mr. Newsholme elaborated this point, and in associating the toast with the name of Mr. Langley, said they knew him well, and his anxiety to do what he could for them.

Mr. Langley, on rising to reply to the toast, had a most hearty reception. He said he was quite sure that they would not expect a Radical member of Parliament to be responsible for the quantity or quality of the legislative work that was turned out by the House of Lords. Sometimes the second estate of the realm met at half-past four o'clock, and adjourned at twenty-nine minutes to five. During the last six or seven years their work had been exceedingly light, and they had generally supported the legislation of the members of Parliament who could constitute a majority. In reference to the House of Commons, one

was almost ready to say, as the member of Parliament once said who was more expressive than polite, "Mr. Speaker, where the de'il are we?" And when the Speaker rose up and said, "Order, order, order; I would remind the honourable member that that is not parliamentary language," he said, "I beg your pardon, Mr. Speaker; I am sorry for using unparliamentary language, but where the deuce are we?" That was the question a great many people were asking at the present



MR. G. T. W. NEWSHOLME.



MR. BATTY LANGLEY, M.P.

time. They were so very mixed in the House of Commons at the present time that they hardly knew who's who, and when they found the difficulty accentuated by that portion of the Press which supported the majority of the House of Commons, they wondered what the result would be. They had heard a good deal lately about retaliation, preferential tariffs, and protection, but there were two kinds of protection known to the House of Commons—first, the House protected the public interests, and, secondly, they protected fair and honourable competition. He did not think that any gentleman present would object to that kind of protection. This brought him naturally to say a few words upon the subject which the President had introduced. He was perfectly aware, as they all were, that a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons last year, backed by eight members of Parliament. He had spoken to six of them, and all those six were in opposition to some of the clauses of that Bill. He thought this statement of his was confirmed at the annual dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society, when Mr. Marshall Hall responded for the toast he was now replying to, and he thought he was very definite indeed in his statement. He had a conversation with Mr. Marshall Hall upon this Bill, and Mr. Hall told him he could not support it as it was introduced, although his name was on the back. He spoke to Mr. Ellis Griffiths, and he told him the same. He spoke to two or three other members, and their opinions coincided with his own. What was the objection—the main objection—to the provisions of this Bill? It was practically this: that the members he consulted each thought, in reference to the provisions of this Bill, the main object of the Bill was aiming a blow at limited companies. He had not heard a single member who backed the Bill nor any other member of Parliament say that it was not absolutely necessary, in the interests of the public, that every shop that was opened in the United Kingdom for the sale of poisons and dispensing of medicines should be managed, controlled, and governed by a chemist who had passed the necessary examination and who had received his diploma. He said so still. Therefore, on the main points they were agreed. It was only the question of detail. If it were the desire and the wish of the Pharmaceutical Society to prevent limited companies being brought into existence in order that there may be fair and honourable competition, then they might depend upon it that the House of Commons would never agree to such a measure. It was stated that one of the clauses in the Bill (Clause 7) said that it is necessary or desirable to make it imperative for every director of a limited company shall be a qualified chemist. He knew that had been contradicted by some. It was told to him in the Lobby of the House, this was not the interpretation of the Bill. He had replied, "That is the interpretation of the legal profession." If they would alter that, he had no doubt the House of Commons would be prepared to support them so long as they (the pharmacists) supported the interests he had named. So far as public and private Bills were concerned, he felt confident that the next Session of Parliament would be a complete failure. Government measures and the discussions upon abstract questions would in all probability take up the whole time of Parliament, and there was little chance of any private legislation taking place. In reference to the work which was being done by pharmacists in the United Kingdom, he was sure the outside public generally acknowledged the valuable contributions to scientific research which pharmacists had manifested and given to the world. They knew that drugs at the present time occupied a very prominent position in the medical world, and they had been so manipulated by science as to rob them of their deterioration and to advance their usefulness. He was quite sure the public generally were fully conscious of that fact, and their sympathies and their help would go out to the pharmacists. But any legislation they might desire in reference to the question which their respected President had mentioned must be on the lines he had indicated. He questioned very much whether they would find any members of Parliament who put their names on the back of the Bill last year who would do so this. He had had repeated conversations with them upon the question, and they all seemed to say that if there were anything which prevented the pharmacists of the United Kingdom from assisting the public in this great question, they were prepared to help them; but if it inter-

fered in any way with the rights of the public, it would not pass the gauntlet of the House of Commons. He could assure them that those who blocked the Bill last year had no unkind or unfriendly feelings towards the Pharmaceutical Society, and would help them all they could. He advised them to go step by step, to keep first of all what they thought most important, to do it in such a way to carry the public with them, and they would be successful in their parliamentary attempts.

OTHER TOASTS.

Mr. John Austen submitted the toast of "The Lord Mayor and Corporation," to which Alderman Wycliffe Wilson replied, touching upon the question of the milk-supply referred to by Mr. Austen. Referring to the Pharmaceutical Society, he said it is one of great importance, and he had heard more about it during the last few years because of his close acquaintance with their Chairman. Mr. Newsholme and he had worked together in Poor-law affairs with remarkable agreement. He had rejoiced to know that Mr. Newsholme had been elected President of their Society, but was glad when his term of office expired, as Mr. Newsholme would be able to help more with the Poor-law work in Sheffield; he still was absent from half the Guardians' meetings owing to the work he was doing in connection with the Society. He had very little doubt that if gentlemen like Mr. Batty Langley put their heads together with the members of the Society, some way out of the difficulty in connection with their Bill would be found—some way by which the public would be protected and injustice done to no one.

The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain" was given by Mr. A. Russell Fox, and the President (Mr. Atkins) replied at some length, paying a tribute to Mr. Newsholme for the work which he had done as President of the Pharmaceutical Society. He then spoke of education, saying he was more and more convinced of the absolute necessity of systematic training, as he was perfectly sure that the remarkable percentage of failures in their examinations was only an indication of the entire want of proper systematic training. Their young men came up to London frequently conscious that they were frauds; he did not use the word in an ungenerous sense, but they were perfectly aware that they were unfit to pass the examination. Some of them came up as a preliminary canter to see what it was like. Others came with the knowledge that they had been crammed, and with their minds full of undigested matter. These passed into the hands of trained examiners. He believed the examiners were most careful and considerate in their treatment of the examinees. If a man went up and failed to answer a question, the examiner tried to find out whether he had a good man; he tried him in something else, and if he found the man was crammed and had acquired no broad adequate knowledge, his duty was clear, and he was sent down. There was only one way to meet this: the test of slow, systematic plodding. There were facilities for the acquisition of knowledge by that process if their young men would only avail themselves of them, but his observation led him to the conclusion that you could lead a horse to the water but you could not make him drink. Mr. Atkins then spoke about the Pharmacy Bill, saying that there is a great deal in it—even if they were defeated by Mr. Langley—which is most valuable. They would get the curriculum. The registration of shops would be an immense boon. They had now no power of inspection; he knew the Englishman did not like it. He had just been spending the week in Paris and studying pharmacy there, and he found that they had State inspection, and what had they in compensation? They had State protection. Whenever the leading pharmacies there changed hands they were worth a large sum in the market, and those men possessing historic pharmacies were now in an entrenched position. As an Englishman he admitted that he would be glad to accept the position the pharmacist in Paris has. If he had time to go amongst the provincial Associations, he would say to them, "Keep your powder dry, and please do not go on discussing this Bill any more—reserve your shot, and let every one tell." In dealing with members of Parliament they should remember that they had an axe to grind, and an honourable one. In the coming elections, whenever it was, there would be cries of (what was it?) "fiscalitis"; there would be the great question of education, and that of

the administration of the War Office, which would come on for consideration, but they were not to lose their heads, or their hearts, or their courage, or power of attack in dealing with the particular question that was before them.

Mr. Rymer Young (Warrington) then proceeded in his own inimitable and humorous fashion to wander round the toast of "The Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society," and, notwithstanding a good dinner and the late hour, Mr. C. F. Carr, who replied in a pessimistic mood. Mr. Batty Langley then interposed a toast which was not on the list—that of "The Chairman." He said they all knew the high and honourable position Mr. Newsholme occupied in Sheffield, and the public work he had done, and he was quite sure the Pharmaceutical Society is greatly indebted to him for the work he had done for the pharmacists in the country. Mr. Newsholme having briefly replied, "The Guests" was proposed by Mr. George Squire, and acknowledged by Dr. Hicks, who hoped the Pharmacy Bill would soon become an Act, and then they would be obliged to talk about it no longer.

The proceedings were pleasantly varied by the Sheffield *Æolian Glee-singers*, who gave selections at intervals during the evening.

Trade-marks Applied for.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. DALTON, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," October 21, 1903.)

"BITULITE"; for a composition for iron and steel. By W. Briggs & Sons (Limited), 13 Panmure Street, Dundee, manufacturing chemists. 256,197.

"HYRALDITE"; for dyeing chemicals. By the Manufacture Lyonnaise des Matières Colorantes, Lyons, c/o H. Haddan & Co., 18 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. 257,091.

"ODOL"; for chemicals in Classes 2 and 3; for fermented liquors and spirits and for mineral and aerated waters. By K. A. Lingner, 26 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E. 255,112, 255,113, 255,115, and 255,116.

"BENZ-CLENZ"; for chemicals. By Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Crown Buildings, Corporation Street, Birmingham. 256,578.

"CUTA-MEDA"; for liquid medicine and ointment and medicated soap, and for perfumed soap. By Taylor's Drug Company (Limited), Guildford Street, Leeds. 256,933 and 256,934.

"ENGELIN"; for chemicals. By D. H. von Engel, Bremen, c/o Jensen & Son, 77 Chancery Lane, W.C. 257,259.

"SEAPONGS"; for surgical instruments. By G. Pearson, 17 Angel Row, Nottingham. 256,842.

"MOMALTEEN"; for horse and cattle, &c., food. By H. Reck and A. Borsu, 1 Holborn Circus, W.C. 255,947.

"HIRANO"; for mineral and aerated waters. By J. Lyon & Co., 4 Lombard Court, E.C. 257,021.

"HYDROXOLINE" ("Hydro" disclaimed); for oils in Class 47. By Craig & Rose (Limited), 48 Bankside, S.E. 256,624.

Picture of the Persian flag; for laundry blue. By J. & J. Colman (Limited), Carrow Works, Norwich. 257,224.

(From the Trade-marks Journal, October 28, 1903.)

Combination of devices and the word "AOHOY"; for chemicals in Classes 1 and 2, soap in Class 47, and cleaning, grinding, and polishing substances. By the Hansa Chemical-works, 19 Wilson Street, Finsbury Pavement, E.C. 257,345, 257,317, 257,346, and 257,347.

Combination of devices; for metal salts, metalloid chlorides, &c. By Th. Goldschmidt, Essen-on-the-Ruhr, c/o Jensen & Son, 77 Chancery Lane, W.C. 255,671.

"TRAGOLEUM"; for preparations in Class 1. By the Gum Tragasol Supply Company (Limited), Hooton, Cheshire. 257,272.

"MERSYREN"; for a sea-sickness preventive, &c. By A. Neagle, Singapore, and E. S. Neagle, Great Eastern House, 20 Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C. 256,268.

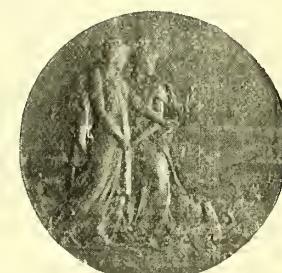
Combination of devices and the word "KUPIDYNE"; for medicines. By T. M. O'Connor, The Medical Hall, Athlone, co. Westmeath, Ireland. 256,985.

London and Paris.

WE briefly mentioned last week that over two hundred business men, members of the City of London International Commercial Association, had visited Paris, and been royally entertained by their Parisian *confrères*. The why and the wherefore of the event has not been made quite clear, and through the courtesy of Mr. F. G. Phillips, 12 Charterhouse Street, E.C., we have obtained particulars regarding it which are worthy of record. It appears that when President Loubet paid us a visit recently, fully two hundred French men of business came to London, and a number of our own merchants entertained them and showed them the wonders of London. After the visit our fellow-citizens formed themselves into an association, with Mr. D. George Collins as chairman, the object being "to encourage reciprocal friendly relationships between the representative commercial communities of the different nationalities of the world; to promote the commerce and manufactures of the United Kingdom, and to co-operate in all matters relating to international commercial questions."

The invitation to Paris was given by the Comité Républicain du Commerce et de l'Industrie, of Paris, and amongst those who accepted it and participated in the several brilliant functions were: Messrs. Frederick Bishop, P. Lelasseur, Ed. W. Lambert, Samuel Lambert, F. G. Phillips, F. Sharland, Chas. Sharland, W. Blagden White, F. Watson, and Max Zimmerman.

The party (which included ladies) were received at Calais on Wednesday, October 28, by the Mayor, Sir Albert Rollit speaking in reply to his welcome. They then proceeded to Paris, where the Hôtel Continental was headquarters, and in that house the same evening they were entertained to dinner, 600 sitting down under the presidency of M. Trouillot, Minister of Commerce and Industry. The front of the menu-card bore an emblematic device—Madame la France greeting in welcome her British sister. We shall not attempt to touch the cordial speeches that were made, although an English chemist's assistant who was there sends us a glowing account. Next day the British delegates entertained the Republican Committee to luncheon, after which there was a reception at the Hôtel de Ville, and all the guests were presented to M. Deville, the President of the Municipal Council. Most of the heads of British business-houses were there, including representatives of pharmacy, such as Messrs. Hogg, Green & Nathan, Roberts, and Swann. The only inconvenience was that due to the great success of the reception: there were over 6,000, and the crush was curious. In the evening the handsome front peristyle cupola and foyer of the Opera House were illuminated, and the whole building given over to the Association and their friends. The house was crammed in every part. The programme consisted of the third act of Verdi's "Aïda," the fourth and fifth acts of "Edipe Roi," and the "Maladetta" ballet. Friday morning was devoted to paying a few friendly visits and in visiting large factories and business-houses. In the evening there was a splendid show at the New Circus, which was elaborately decorated with flags, &c. Most of the visitors were present. Before they left Paris each of the delegates was presented with a bronze medal commemorative of the visit, which we reproduce:



The original is 2½ inches in diameter. When returning home by Boulogne the delegates were entertained by the Mayor. The visit was a complete success. We understand that the delegates got a rebate of 50 per cent. from the French railways.

Dealings in Patents.

AT the Worship Street Police Court on October 31, before Mr. Haden Corser, the hearing was resumed of the charge against James Lloyd Davies (37), chemist and druggist, carrying on business as Thomas & Co., the Drug-stores, 411 Mare Street, Hackney; Arthur Levy (61), general dealer, Oriel Road, Homerton; and William Fordham, otherwise Peake (57), comb-maker, of being concerned together in feloniously receiving 595 boxes of patent pills and 360 vials of Carter's little liver-pills, value 50*l.*, the property of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), Leman Street, Whitechapel, E. Previous hearings were reported in our issues of October 17 (page 639), October 24 (page 684), and October 31 (page 747).

Detective-Sergeant Wensley now deposed that on October 5 he went to 411 Mare Street and took possession of 595 boxes and 360 vials of patent pills. There were 259 boxes of Beecham's marked 349, 362, 384, 393, 406, 415, 433, 442, 458, 479, 493, 532, and 544. There were seventy-two boxes of Dr. Williams's pink pills, 192 boxes of Page Woodcock's wind-pills, seventy-two boxes of bile beans, and 360 vials of Carter's little liver-pills. These constituted the articles mentioned in the charge.

Albert Boreham (Detective-Sergeant, H Division) said that on October 8 he went to Davies's shop, and found in a cupboard behind the counter twenty-nine boxes of Dr. Scott's liver-pills, 120 boxes of Beecham's, 192 boxes of Dr. Williams's pink pills, forty-eight boxes of bile beans, twenty-four boxes of Page Woodcock's wind-pills, and 252 vials of Carter's little liver-pills. These were found subsequent to the framing of the charge.

Mr. George Kenniford, head of the statistical department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), stated that he was instructed to take a minute stocktaking from December 27, 1902, the date of the last stocktaking, up to October 10, 1903, and he produced his stock-sheets. He found that there were 284 dozen of Beecham's pills (small size) and five dozen (large size) short in the stock, also 189 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen of Dr. Williams's pink pills, 304 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen vials of Carter's little liver-pills, twenty dozen Page Woodcock's wind-pills, 216 dozen of bile beans, and 105 dozen of Dr. Scott's liver-pills. The value of the pills was 700*l.*

By Mr. Margetts (for Levy): To get at these figures he took the stock-sheets of December 27, and then added the purchases since, and deducted the sales. He did not take the stock on December 27, but took those stock-sheets as they had been signed as correct then. He could not say that there is a deficiency at every stocktaking. From December to October the Society sold 850 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen of Beecham's pills and 237 dozen of Dr. Williams's.

By Mr. Freke Palmer (for Davies): He was not in a position to say what the deficiency was when stock was taken in December. That stocktaking was from the previous June, but he had nothing to do with the preparing of the December stock-sheets. They did take stock this June, and he had the stock-sheets in court showing the deficiency then, but he did not take that stock himself.

Mr. Freke Palmer said that he failed to see how the witness's evidence could help the prosecution or affect the prisoners, and cross-examined witness further on the point.

John Humphrey Streeting, of 5 Tennyson Road, Leyton, said that he was the head warehouseman in the grocery department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. On October 15 he was called to Leman Street police-station and saw there some Dr. Scott's liver-pills that he could identify as part of the consignments of Dr. Scott's pills supplied to the society. Mr. Freke Palmer here objecting, witness said he could not swear they were the society's boxes positively, but the numbers were the same. Previously he had seen some boxes of Beecham's, and identified them by the numbers.

Mr. Freke Palmer: Your Worship will recollect that Beecham's send 10,000 boxes at a time with the same mark, and only sixty dozen went to this firm.

Mr. Keeble: Well, then, as to the Dr. Williams's pink pills, you can positively swear to them by the red mark?

The Witness: Yes; and the dates in the boxes tally with our invoices.

Mr. Freke Palmer was not satisfied with this, and said so. The Magistrate: In your manner of selling could either of the prisoners purchase the goods direct from you?

The Witness: No, your Worship. We do not sell to individual traders, and never sold to Thomas & Co.

Mr. Keeble said that that concluded the case for the prosecution, and he asked for the committal of all three prisoners to the next Sessions on the charge of feloniously receiving the stolen goods.

Mr. Margetts then addressed the Court on behalf of the prisoner Levy, and Mr. R. Storry Deans, barrister, did the same for Fordham.

Mr. Freke Palmer, on behalf of Davies, said he should think it was the first time in his own knowledge where there were three prisoners charged with receiving goods well knowing them to be stolen, yet had no proof laid before the Court of any theft ever having occurred. The whole position was as unjust to all three prisoners, and especially a professional business-man like Davies, as it was ludicrous, and a more monstrous charge could scarcely be on the court records. So far, however, as Davies was concerned the position was that the prosecution accused Levy as a receiver, and because he sold the goods to Fordham the police said he must be a receiver, and following the line when Fordham sold to Davies the police at once said "He's another receiver." Where were they to stop? He presumed that if the police had got hold of a luckless customer of Davies he would have made "receiver No. 4." Davies did not act as a receiver. There was no secrecy in what he did. He went openly and advertised the very goods in the recognised trade-journal THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. This advertising was the more important to note, for it was not in some out-of-the-way small local paper, it was in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, a journal that the prisoner Davies positively knew went into the hands of every wholesale and retail chemist's firm or business throughout the country. Would any sane receiver so advertise stolen property? Why did he advertise? So as to attract the attention of some buyer such as the Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), whom he was accused of having known were the losers of the very goods, and whom he knew must see his advertisement. It was not said he sold them under price, and the police did not deny—could not, in fact—that he paid Fordham a legitimate price, believing the goods were bankrupt stock. When first spoken to Davies sent his shopboy to point out Fordham as the man he bought the goods from. The manner in which Davies bought the goods might not be strictly in accordance with the high moral tone of other chemists in their purchases, but because he was a chemist, was Davies to be condemned because he bought up some bankrupt stock and advertised it again for sale? There was no evidence that Davies could possibly suspect the goods were stolen, and he had produced his cheque-book to show the money he paid. It did not sound like a receiver to use a document like a cheque. He (Mr. Palmer) asked the Magistrate to say (1) that there was no evidence of any robbery, (2) that there was no evidence that Davies did or could know the goods were stolen, and not send for trial on so vague a case a man who had respectably carried on his business for eight years.

The Magistrate, after some conversation with the lawyers, said "The defence have raised certain points that prevent my giving any decision now. I will go very carefully through the depositions, and on Monday give a decision."

On Monday, accordingly, Mr. Haden Corser said he thought the case was a troublesome and unusual one, especially in regard to the points raised for the defence; yet he felt there was some evidence to go to a jury, and he would therefore be justified in sending all three prisoners for trial at the next North London Sessions. The prisoners were then formally charged, and pleaded not guilty. An application by Mr. Storry Deans to reduce Fordham's bail from 100*l.* to 25*l.* was refused, as the Magistrate said he could not say one was more entitled to consideration than the others.

Do You Know?—THE 1904 CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is being looked forward to with particular interest by the trade on account of the very valuable information it will contain about the new interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Acts. It will be the most popular DIARY we have ever published. If your subscription is expiring, renew promptly, so as to get the DIARY.